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OPINION METER

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10 Weeks After

Ten weeks after their wedding, Kim Kardashian is filing for divorce.

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'Only aliens with parole need extension'

»Lawmaker says jobless aliens need to go

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services is reminding employers and foreign workers in the CNMI that only paroled foreign nationals need to apply for an extension on their parole.

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September visitor arrivals down 15 pct.

»FY 2011 visitors arrivals down 8 percent

September 2011 visitor arrivals to the Northern Mariana Islands were down 15 percent compared to September 2010.

According to the Marianas Visitors Authority, arrivals to the islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota registered 25,408 visitors in September compared to

29,917 in September 2010.

Overall visitor arrivals were down 8 percent in fiscal year 2011 to 338,106 visitors.

Arrivals from Japan dropped 30 percent to 11,872. In September, the CNMI was scheduled to receive four flights a week on Fly Marianas but a high per-

centage of these flights were unfortunately cancelled due to operational issues.

In addition, in September the CNMI received only two daily flights from Narita compared to three daily flights in September 2010.

This situation is expected to improve when Delta Air Lines

See SEPTEMBER on Page 4

is not a flight risk. Palacios was also not found eligible for a court-appointed counsel.

According to police reports, members of the Drug Enforcement Task Force and DPS Criminal Investigation Bureau used a confidential source to buy a total of \$200 worth of "ice" from Palacios in two transactions on Oct. 19, 2011.

Court records also show that Palacios was among several persons who wrote letters of support to beg for leniency for his brother-in-law, convicted "ice" trafficker Ignacio Aldan Leon Guerrero, during Leon Guerrero's sentencing in May 2011.

In a letter dated April 20, 2011
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Rep. Palacios out on bail

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Rep. Raymond D. Palacios, who was arrested Friday for allegedly selling \$200 worth of crystal methamphetamine, was released from jail yesterday afternoon after posting bail.

Sources at the Department of Public Safety said that Palacios was released at 2:30pm after his counsel, Edward Arriola Sr., processed his bail.

Superior Court associate judge Perry B. Inos on Monday allowed Palacios to post bail—\$3,000 cash and \$27,000 unsecured bond—after determining that the 48-year-old lawmaker



Palacios



As Perdido resident Juan T. Camacho puts the flower arrangements on the tomb of his two sons, John Jr. and Christopher Vicente at the Chalan Kanoa public cemetery yesterday morning in observance of All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day. The father of seven also visited the grave of another son, Ray Patrick.

38 businesses, agencies take part in today's job fair. PAGE 3
NMI gets \$1.4M in HUD funding for affordable housing. PAGE 3

Local

Camacho leads five outstanding employees of SVES

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

San Vicente Elementary School conferred its prestigious Teacher of the Year award on Ma. Theresa M. Camacho, her first time to be given the award after eight years of teaching. Colleagues voted for the 48-year-old teacher to represent them in the overall search for CNMI Teacher of the Year for school year 2011-2012.

Camacho started in 2003 as a sixth grade teacher and she described her first two years as very tough and challenging. She is now a fourth grade teacher

and handles 25 students every day. This year marks her eight years in service.

"It's a great honor to be selected from a pool of 30-plus equally deserving teachers in San Vicente. I didn't expect this recognition and I feel proud and happy because this shows that I am doing my job effectively for the students," she told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

Although it was never her plan to become a teacher, Camacho believes that teaching is in her blood as she hails from a family of educators.

"This is a different job where in you can be different every

year. You can do whatever you feel is good for your class. You can change the strategies that you feel are not working and try new ones that may work. The beauty of teaching is you can always be creative and try something new. I am thankful that I made the right choice in my life," she said.

Other awardees

Donald M. San Nicolas, San Vicente's registrar and administrative assistant, was named the school's Support Staff of the Year. Prior to joining San Vicente, he was with Saipan Southern High School for seven



MONETH G. DEPOSA

San Vicente Elementary School educational awardees gather for a group photo yesterday. Standing in front, from left, are Teacher of the Year Ma. Theresa Camacho and Teacher Aide of the Year Anita Perez. Standing in the rear, from right, are Librarian of the Year Richard Gramlich, Support Staff of the Year Donald San Nicolas, SVES principal Yvonne Pangelinan, and Maintenance of the Year Magnetti Isamu.

years where he was recognized as its Support Staff of the Year in 2004 and 2007. He joined San Vicente in 2009.

San Nicolas describes his 11 years of service with PSS as fulfilling and very rewarding. "This honor is unexpected and I will try my best to perform what is needed. I am honored and I thank them for the vote of confidence in me," he said.

Hailed as Teacher Aide of the Year is Anita Perez, who has been with the school's special education program since 2004. A first-time awardee, Perez acknowledged the trust of her peers and lauded their support and assistance.

Perez is currently taking online courses to further her education and become a regular teacher for children with special needs. Prior to joining San Vicente, Perez served special students at San Antonio Elementary School for one year. She also used to volunteer at Oleai Elementary School.

San Vicente bestowed its Librarian of the Year award on Richard Gramlich, who has been with the school for 18 years now. He started as a classroom teacher, a position he held for 11 years. In 2005, he became the school counselor. The Librarian of the Year award is his first recognition.

Prior to joining PSS, Gramlich tutored children in hospitals back in Hawaii.

"About 25 years ago, I needed a job and I became a hospital tutor in Hawaii. I tutored kids who can't go to school and were stuck in the hospital and juvenile detentions and I found that I was good at it. I like working with kids because it makes me feel young," he said.

With today's modern technol-

ogy, it is Gramlich's goal to help children enjoy reading the old fashioned way. He commended PSS for ensuring that all students have easy access to books in every school.

Gramlich assists an average of 170 students per day. Each month, he said, about 5,000 books are being borrowed in the school library. "Our library is very proud that our students read 45,000 books last year," he added.

This year's Maintenance of the Year award was conferred on Magnetti Isamu, a maintenance worker for more than three years now. San Vicente has been recognizing his outstanding performance for two years now, and he was selected for the same honor last year.

Happy and proud of the recognition, Isamu believes that his work is important because he ensures the safety and cleanliness of the school environment. Isamu said the friendship, bond, and collaboration he gains from students and staff are enough rewards to keep him going every day.

Principal Yvonne Pangelinan told *Saipan Tribune* that the progress of SVES and the actual behavior of students themselves is a reflection of the great teachers and staff they have.

"If you look at the success, you can see it in the kids, their scores, in the whole environment—it is because of them and everything they pour into the kids and their learning. I hope they will continue what they're doing, not only putting the kids first but also find time for their own personal growth to achieve balance," said the principal.

San Vicente is home to 589 students and 53 employees, including 32 classroom teachers.

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38 businesses, agencies take part in today's job fair

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

About 38 private businesses and government agencies have already confirmed participation in the job fair that will be hosted by the CNMI Department of Labor today from 9am to 3pm at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center.

These employers will have the chance to hire any of the 4,000 job applicants that have registered through their website, www.marianaslabor.net, and walk-in applicants as well.

"We hope that we get to all these U.S. qualified workers that are applying for jobs because this is

their opportunity. I'm pretty sure most of them will be there," Employment Services Division director Alfred Pangelinan told *Saipan Tribune*.

He said participating employers range from major hotels and retail businesses to government entities like the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. and the newly established Commonwealth Health Corp.

According to Pangelinan, job applicants will be greeted by their staff by the entrance. "If you have any questions and haven't registered at our website yet, we have an information booth that you can go over and inquire from. Our staff will guide you appropriately on what to do."

While the number of participating employers is "great," Pangelinan noted that additional employers have called their office and expressed interest in the job fair but could no longer be accommodated due to space availability at the venue.

"We're all set up now and 38 is the right number of employers that will fit into the Multi-Purpose Center to avoid traffic jam among applicants. We don't want it to be like the last time when everybody didn't have enough room," he explained.

Pangelinan added that those businesses that were not included in today's job fair will be included in future job fairs that they will organize.

Another good thing about the job fair, Pangeli-

nan said, is that their agency is collaborating with the business sector in a "more interactive relationship rather than an enforcement relationship. We hope that this relationship will continue and develop for the better."

The division director earlier advised all job applicants to know the kind of jobs they want, bring their resumes, and look presentable to create a good impression in front of prospective employers.

After the job fair, Pangelinan said the CNMI Department of Labor will follow up on participating employers and job seekers if they have been hired through the event.

'Let the courts decide Saipan casino bill's legality'

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

His belief that the Saipan and Northern Islands Local Delegation did everything by the book and eagerness to find revenues

for an ailing CNMI economy prompted Rep. Joseph Palacios (R-Saipan) to file a lawsuit against Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's veto of the local Saipan casino bill.

"It took us awhile to put it to-

gether. We, the leadership, did meet with the governor prior to him vetoing the bill. We tried to ask the governor to 'leave it to the courts. Let the courts decide because none of us are lawyers.' I believe we went through the

process based on the legal opinion of the two legal counsels that we have," he said in interview with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

The chairman of the SNILD Committee on Judicial and Governmental Operations on Friday

Federal agency puts PSS energy project on hold

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The U.S. Department of Fish and Wildlife has put the Public School System's green energy project on hold following a determination that the project has failed to secure the necessary permit from the federal agency to build wind turbines at Saipan Southern High School.

SSHS principal Jesse Tudela confirmed this with the *Saipan Tribune*, saying the decision whether this phase of the project will push through or not will be known in January 2012.

"The green energy project is on-hold because of the permits from U.S. Fish and Wildlife and

we're expecting the decision by January next year whether it is still a go or not," Tudela said.

The CNMI Division of Energy received \$6.5 million from the U.S. Department of Energy last year for renewable energy projects, \$2.4 million of which was given to PSS for the installation of wind turbines and solar panels at 11 schools. In March this year, a groundbreaking was held at SSHS for the building of six 95-foot wind turbines and 95 solar panels on campus. The project would have allowed SSHS to produce its own electricity—as much as 165 kilowatts—enough to power the entire campus and save up to \$200,000 in utility payments annually.

Tudela said there are two phases of the energy project: the wind turbines and the solar panels. He revealed that additional equipment for the solar panels is expected this month in time for its scheduled completion in December this year. For the wind turbines, however, that phase is now "unsure," he said.

"But we're still hopeful and we're receiving monthly updates from the project manager. We need this energy project because it will get the entire school off the CUC grid. Failure to get this project done will mean we're not going to have that capability to become self sufficient in terms of alternative energy," he said.

Without the delay, the wind turbine project was slated for completion within the year.

Tudela said the green energy project was first conceptualized for SSHS by former principal Craig Garrison, who applied for

the grant. This has been expanded to cover the entire PSS.

Tudela said that U.S. Fish and Wildlife officials visited the site before summer and ordered the temporary work stoppage on the wind turbine phase of the project.

The project was awarded to Pacific Green Integrated Technology Inc. and Pacific Wind & Solar, LLC in September 2010.

filed a petition in Superior Court seeking declaratory relief that House Local Bill 17-44, as enacted by the delegation, be declared as a Commonwealth law.

"The findings are based on their [House legal counsels] legal opinion, we stand behind them. They're saying that it's constitutional and Saipan law is Commonwealth law. I was hoping that the governor would not veto it and let the court decide," said Palacios.

Aside from infusing badly needed revenue to the CNMI's depleted coffers, Palacios believes that allowing the courts to decide on HLB 17-44's legality will help lawmakers finally settle the debate whether a local law is a CNMI-wide law.

"If this issue is not resolved

now, future legislators may do the same thing and they may just repeat the process. With all due respect to the governor, it's not really a lawsuit. It's to declare which is which—whether it's legal or not, whether it's constitutional or unconstitutional," he said.

Palacios said that he's not a gambler and he and his delegation colleagues are just looking for means to raise revenue so they could help government employees out of the 64-hour austerity. He also believes that a Saipan casino industry will create more jobs.

"I hope the governor doesn't take it personally. I hope he just looks at it in a way that we lawmakers are just trying to revive our CNMI economy and help generate revenue."

NMI gets \$1.4 million in HUD funding for affordable housing

SAN FRANCISCO—U.S. Housing and Urban Development Secretary Shaun Donovan said yesterday that the Northern Marianas will receive more than \$1.4 million to support community development and produce more affordable housing. HUD's annual funding will also help find homes for individuals and families living on the streets.

The fiscal year 2011 continuing resolution significantly reduced overall funding for HUD's Community Development Block Grant and HOME Investment Partnerships Programs compared to last year. The nation's CDBG funding was reduced by more than \$600 million, or about 16.5 percent, while the HOME program funding was reduced by more than \$200 million, about 11.7 percent.

"This year's block grant funding requires tough choices that we would not have made in better circumstances," Donovan said. "As we work under the challenges of our nation's deficit, we must also understand that these programs are absolutely essential in promoting community development, producing affordable housing, helping our homeless and even supporting

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DOJ opposes injunction against CW final rule

»Hearing moved to Nov. 22

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Today's scheduled hearing for a lawsuit that seeks to stop federal officials from implementing the CNMI-only Transitional Worker final rule will not push through after the district court granted the U.S. Department of Justice's request for a two-week continuance.

At the same time, Theodore W. Atkinson, senior litigation counsel of DOJ's Office of Immigration Litigation-District Court Section, told the court that he will represent the respondents in the case. He also cited that the complaint contains vague assertions of injury and unspecified violations of the law.

ALIENS

From Page 1

"Every day about 10 people who do not need to apply for parole or parole extensions come to the USCIS Saipan office with an InfoPass appointment. This is a waste of their time and it delays appointments for about 50 people each week who actually need something from USCIS in order to maintain their status," said USCIS regional media manager Marie Therese Sebrechts in a statement yesterday.

She urged employers and ap-

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona granted DOJ's motion for continuance and moved the new preliminary injunction hearing to Nov. 22, 2011.

Manglona gave the petitioners until Nov. 10 to file their legal brief and allowed the respondents to submit their opposition brief by Nov. 16. The petitioners may file a reply brief by Nov. 18.

The petitioners are Bonifacio V. Sagana, Manuel T. Vilaga, Gerardo G. De Guzman, Hector T. Sevilla, Carlito J. Marquez, Eduardo M. Elenzano, and Jong Ho Lee.

They want the court to declare the implementation of the CW final rule as unlawful and exceeds the defendants' constitu-

tional and statutory authority.

Vilaga is a U.S. citizen, while Lee is a U.S. permanent resident. The other plaintiffs are long-term nonresident workers who mostly have U.S. citizen children.

The respondents in the case are Department of Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services District Director David Gulick, U.S. Labor Secretary Hilda L. Solis, and U.S. Department of Labor District Director Terrence Trotter.

In his motion for continuance, Atkinson said the U.S. government opposes the preliminary injunction, but that he needs more time to consult with his clients, analyze the allegations, fully apprise the court as to the bases for the U.S. government's position,

and to prepare for the hearing.

Atkinson said the DOJ's Office of Immigration Litigation-District Court Section will be handling the lawsuit because of the similarity of issues with prior litigation in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia.

Atkinson was referring to Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's lawsuit to block the federal takeover of the local immigration system. In November 2009, U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia Judge Paul L. Friedman upheld the constitutionality of the law that applied federal immigration laws to the CNMI.

Atkinson said the hearing on the issuance of a preliminary injunction reaches the U.S. government in a procedurally unusual way.

"There is no pending motion

for a preliminary injunction, and thus no memorandum of points and authorities from plaintiffs explaining why they are entitled to preliminary injunctive relief. All the [U.S.] government has to work from is the complaint," Atkinson said.

He said the complaint itself is vague and indefinite as to the bases for a preliminary injunction.

Atkinson said plaintiffs claim that the CW final rule "prejudices foreign workers and business owners due to the short period by which it was released and implemented," but they cited no specific violation of the Administrative Procedure Act.

Atkinson said the allegation that the CW final rule "runs counter to the mandate of Congress for an orderly phasing-out of the nonresident contract worker program" does not specify how and what they deem as "confused"

implementation of the final rule.

Atkinson said plaintiffs assert that the implementation of the final rule will cause them "grievous injury" and a deprivation of due process but they identify no concrete or particular injury they have suffered or will suffer, let alone irreparable injury.

What is clear, he said, is that the plaintiffs disagree with the implementation of the CW final rule and have serious qualms as to how it is being implemented.

"But what remains unclear is the legal underpinning for this action and the grounds for a preliminary injunction. Pro se litigants are entitled to substantial latitude with respect to how they negotiate the procedural shoals of federal district court litigation. They are not, however, entitled to substantial latitude with respect to their burdens in court," he pointed out.

SEPTEMBER

From Page 1

launches a third weekly flight again on Dec. 29, 2011, supplementing the current two daily flights from Narita with four new flights a week using a Boeing 757 with 182 seats.

Meanwhile, arrivals from Korea dropped 15 percent in September to 6,746 arrivals. However, Korean visitor numbers are projected to increase significantly from November onwards, with a large number of additional air seats being added into the market to the CNMI from both Seoul and Busan. Asiana Airlines will commence Busan-Saipan charter flights

from November 2011 to March 2012, representing a gain of 6,198 seats during this period.

Also, Asiana Airlines has already just boosted its Incheon-Saipan service from 10 to 14 weekly flights beginning Oct. 31, and, in tandem with the increase in the number of weekly flights to double-daily service, it has also increased the size of the aircraft on the route to Boeing 767s with 250 seats each. This will drive an additional 2,263 seats out of Seoul to the CNMI in November.

Finally, Asiana has also upgraded its nighttime service to an Airbus 330 with 275 seats from Oct. 1 to Dec. 4, resulting in a gain of 4,312 seats. These important airlift developments

out of the Korea market in response to demand bode well for arrivals to the NMI from Korea during the coming two months.

Overall arrivals from Korea in fiscal year 2011 were virtually unchanged from the previous fiscal year.

The secondary market of China saw 4,519 arrivals in September, a 93-percent increase compared to the same month last year. Arrivals from China increased 15 percent overall in fiscal year 2011 to represent 14 percent of total visitor arrivals to the Northern Marianas. The significance of the China market continues to grow in importance; in fiscal year 2010 arrivals from China comprised 11 percent of total

visitor arrivals.

Arrivals from Russia continued their year-to-year growth that began in December 2010, posting a gain of 5 percent in September 2011 to 216 visitors. The lucrative market was up 18 percent to 5,092 visitors in fiscal year 2011.

The MVA also reported a 187-percent growth in arrivals from Hong Kong in September to 89 visitors. Total visitor arrivals from Hong Kong reached 1,881 in fiscal year 2011.

Arrivals from other markets were down in September: United States (-39 percent to 545), Guam (-3 percent to 1,217), Philippines (-2 percent to 40) and Other Areas (-18 percent to 164). (MVA)

CATHOLIC

From Page 1

been passed from generation to generation."

The mother of five noted, though, that she visits her loved ones' graves every first Monday of the month as the diocese holds a Mass at the cemetery in honor of the dead.

"I pray not only for their souls but I also ask for protection and safety day and night for us who are still here, that they help us with our financial and health problems," said Faisao-Taisacan.

All Souls' Day and All Saints' Day are widely celebrated traditional and religious

holidays among the Catholic faithful throughout the world, with thousands of devotees visiting the tombs of their departed loved ones.

As early as 6am yesterday, family members began trooping to various cemeteries throughout the islands, with many attending Mass first before proceeding to the cemetery. Flowers were offered, candles were lit, and prayers were uttered as the CNMI joined the rest of the Catholic community in remembering their departed loved ones.

Maggie Mendiola's annual visits to the cemetery dredge up fond memories of her mother, Rosa Sablan, whom she described as a woman who has

patience and a good heart.

"She's really loving and caring to her family, even to her friends. She had a heart problem and died of stroke in 1998," said Mendiola, who was joined by her husband Jose M. Mendiola and her granddaughter Nonisha Flores in praying for her mom and other relatives under the sweltering heat of the Tuesday morning sun.

"It's one of our beliefs as Catholic, so we come and pray for them. We hope that she's resting in a peaceful place with God," added the Chalan Kiya resident.

For some, All Saints Day and All Souls Day can be an emotional time as families remember the pain of losing

a loved one.

A teary-eyed Juan T. Camacho related how difficult it is for a father to lose three of his seven sons: John Jr., Christopher Vicente, and Ray Patrick.

"I visit their graveyards to light candles and offer flowers. I never missed a year since they died. I hope that they're in a better place and I pray for God to take care of all my children who are still alive," said Camacho of As Perdido village.

Frank Calvo, who lives in Chalan Kanoa, go to the cemetery to pay his respects to a deceased grandfather, aunt, brother, and his mother, Juana C. Calvo, who died of old age in 2004.

"My mom was a loving, un-

derstand, and caring woman. Her death was difficult for us but we all had to learn to accept it. My prayer is that come Judgment Day, we will meet them again in heaven," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

For others, the solemn holidays were to honor those who paved the way for their growth and success and hopefully pass it on to the next generation, like Mayor Donald Flores who took time off his busy schedule to pay respects to his parents and his great grandfather, the late Judge Juan M. Ada.

"He was the one who raised me up. He died when I was 20 years old," recounted Flores.

Flores shared that it was Ada, a well-known figure in the Com-

monwealth, who inspired him to become a leader.

"He was my mentor, my inspiration. He taught to always be on the right path. You don't forget that easily," said the mayor.

During his visits to the cemetery on Sundays and on special occasions, Flores said he would bring his grandchildren along.

"When they ask me why, I tell them that I am teaching them about this tradition so that if I'm no longer here, they would be the ones to continue it," he said.

Some of those who went to the cemetery yesterday joined praying the rosary at noon and at 4pm, which was followed by a Mass. Rosary will be prayed again today at 5:30am and at 5:30pm, followed by a Mass.

PALACIOS

From Page 1

and addressed to then Superior Court associate judge Ramona V. Manglona, Palacios promised that he is ready to help "provide good advices" and assist Leon Guerrero "in his journey to help him become a better person."

"I myself have gone through some life-changing situations and that I am fortunate and thankful enough to be a recipient of good advises [sic] and support and that I have committed and hold true my decision in ensuring that my obligations as a father in a broken relationship is of topmost priority and in which I continue to fulfill,"

Palacios said in the letter.

Palacios urged Manglona to be lenient in sentencing Leon Guerrero by ordering him to undergo rehabilitation treatment and strict monitoring instead of a jail sentence.

Manglona, however, sentenced Leon Guerrero to 20 years in prison.

In her written order, Manglona noted that many of Leon Guerrero's immediate family members have had "ice" related cases in both local and federal courts.

She cited Leon Guerrero's two sisters, two brothers, two nieces, and his own son, Ignacio Jr., for having had their own "ice" related criminal cases in the Superior Court and U.S. District Court for the NMI.

Three House members already took drug test

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Three members of the House of Representatives have so far taken the drug test spurred by Rep. Raymond D. Palacios' (Cov-Saipan) alleged involvement in illegal drugs and subsequent arrest on drug trafficking charges.

Floor leader George N. Camacho (Ind-Saipan) said that, to his knowledge, he, Speaker Eli D. Cabrera (R-Saipan), and Rep. Teresita A. Santos (Ind-

CUC offers settlement for unpaid employer contribution with Fund

»Fund counters proposal, citing 'great variance' in debt calculation

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has offered to settle its unpaid employer contributions with the NMI Retirement Fund, but only if the Fund agrees to the formula it used to calculate the amount owed—a sticking point for the Fund, which says that CUC owes it a bigger amount.

Fund legal counsel Carolyn Kern disclosed CUC's settlement proposal during Friday's board meeting. Details of the proposal were discussed in the executive session.

CUC chief financial officer Charles Warren confirmed the settlement offer yesterday but declined to comment further pending the Fund's decision.

"Since CUC and NMIRF are in the middle of negotiations, I think it is premature to discuss [the matter]," Warren said.

He assured, however, that once an agreement is reached, CUC will issue a statement. He also refused to disclose CUC's proposed payment plan.

The Fund sued the utilities corporation in May this year for unpaid employer contributions. It is demanding payment of \$4.44 million, including penalties and damages. It earlier disclosed that CUC is delinquent in its contributions by \$3.1 million as of April this year. The Fund seeks penalty award amounting to \$740,462 through the end of fiscal year 2010 and economic damages amounting to \$527,716. The Fund also wants the court to declare that CUC's attempt to pass on its obligation to the central government is fraudulent on creditors and is void.

The Fund's complaint said that CUC attempted on March 14, 2011, to assign its Fund obligations to the CNMI government in exchange for a release of certain obligations the government owes CUC.

Fund chair Sixto Igisomar disclosed yesterday that the board has decided to counter CUC's proposal but he refused to disclose the specifics of both proposals.

He said they expect a response from CUC next week.

Rota) are the only ones who have so far taken the drug test.

Cabrera early last week appointed Camacho to chair a special committee to investigate Palacios' alleged drug involvement, while Santos is the author of a resolution requesting all members of the House to submit themselves to a drug test.

The still unnumbered resolution calls for each House member to submit to a drug test within 20 days and "provide a copy of their drug test results, immediately

upon receipt, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives."

Palacios' fellow Precinct II congressman, Rep. Ralph S. Demapan (Cov-Saipan), meanwhile, said he was both surprised and saddened by the arrest of his first cousin.

"He is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty. My only comment on the legal matter is that I hope he clears himself and receives his due process under our laws and I pray that justice, free from politics, prevails," he said.

On the other hand, Demapan

said "as a relative of Rep. Palacios, my thoughts and prayers are with his family. And, while Congressman Ray attends to his legal issues, I promise to support our family and to continue to do my best to represent our Precinct II constituents."

As for the mandated drug test, Demapan said he is willing and ready to submit himself as soon as the House resolution becomes official.

One of the co-sponsors of Santos' resolution, Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Cov-Saipan), for his part, said he will submit

to the drug test.

He said because he is part of the ethics committee formed to probe Palacios' alleged drug involvement, he will take the test before Monday, Nov. 7, 2011, the day the committee reconvenes.

"If people want their representatives to be as clean as possible, so be it. We are placed on a higher standard and we should follow those standards," he said.

Villagomez added that failing a drug test and being charged with dealing or distribution are two different things.

"The guy who distributes can

pass a drug test but that's worse than the user because the user is only harming himself," he said.

Cabrera early last week formed the Special Standing Committee on Official Conduct and Ethics and appointed Camacho to serve as its chairman. It will look into reports of drug-related issues involving Palacios and come up with recommendations, if warranted.

Along with Camacho, Santos, and Villagomez, also appointed to the seven-member committee are Fredrick P. Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), Trenton B. Conner (R-Tinian), Joseph Guerrero (R-Saipan), and Ray Yumul (R-Saipan).

Step-By-Step Workshop to Help You Find Thousands of \$\$\$ For College!

Attend Northern Marianas College's FREE Cash for College Workshop and receive personal assistance in completing forms for:

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- CNMI Scholarship
- Other Financial Aid

The workshop will be an ongoing session, so participants can stop by any time between 9am and 3pm.

Although not required for entry to the workshop, please bring the following documents to help complete the scholarship forms at the workshop:

1. ID: Passport, Birth Certificate, or Green Card
2. Official Transcript (3 Official Copies)
3. Tax Forms: Your or your parents' signed 2010 1040 form (2010 W-2 statements if you and/or your parents did not file tax forms)
4. Proof of CNMI residency for 2009 and 2010 (for example, CNMI 1040 tax form, Employment Verification from your employer, Official Transcripts, Voter's Certification, etc.)
5. Voter Certification (to show you voted in the last election - Contact CNMI Election Commission for more information) - SHEFA requirement.

The Cash for College Workshop is made possible through funds from the U.S. DOE, College Access Challenge Grant.

Tanapag school looking for volunteers to mentor students

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Tanapag Elementary School is looking for volunteers who can provide additional adult support for its students amid plans to launch early next year a school-based mentoring program at Saipan's smallest public school.

School counselor Shimiko Montgomery announced yesterday at the Rotary Club of Saipan general membership meeting that they are looking for adult volunteers without criminal records for their school-based mentoring program, which will start by the second week of January 2012.

Deadline to submit mentor

applications is on Nov. 18 to allow them to start their "matching process," she said.

Montgomery said the program is modeled after the Big Brothers Big Sisters, the largest donor and volunteer supported mentoring network in the U.S., and is an upshot of their brainstorming process on what the community can do to help students deal with emotional, behavioral, and academic issues.

"One thing that we definitely know is that if [the students] have a lot of emotional issues, it equals a low academic achievement," said Montgomery.

She noted that Tanapag Elementary School, which has 197 students from kindergarten to 6th



Montgomery

grade, has almost 80 percent of its students eligible for the free meal school program and has been identified by the CNMI

Public School System as one of five "turnaround schools," which means it does not meet the academic goals and standards of PSS.

At present, Montgomery said only 34 percent of students in the CNMI are able to score at or above the 50th percentile on the nationwide SAT10 test, with only 39 percent of the benchmarks at or above standard and that Standards Based Assessment has been stagnant at around 40 percent for the past seven years.

A youth-risk behavior survey last year showed that 40 percent of high school students "felt so sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks or more in a row

that they stopped doing some usual activities during the past 12 months," Montgomery said, while 34 percent of middle school students reported that "they seriously considered attempting suicide in the past 12 months."

Among the top issues that they deal with at the Tanapag Elementary School, Montgomery said, are low motivation, aggression, and truancy.

"Our youth definitely need caring and consistent relationships with adults to be able to navigate their way through adolescence. That we know. Research had shown that," said Montgomery.

According to her, many of their students come from households with single parents, parents who are off-island, have passed away, or are incarcerated.

"We do have a lot of students that come from homes that can't provide caring and consistent relationships for them. That's why we're starting a school-based mentoring program," said Montgomery, adding that the program aims to be a "prevention," not an intervention.

Montgomery said that the 15 students referred to the program will be matched with any of the mentors based on the likes, dislikes, and personalities, among others, of both parties. "We need as many [mentor] applicants as possible so that we can find the best matches for these students," she said.

The program will involve

Villagomez hopes bill to deter crimes vs tourists gets moving

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

A bill that hopes to deter robberies against tourists by increasing the minimum sentencing for crimes within 1,000 feet of tourist sites has been pre-filed at the House of Representatives.

HB 17-236, authored by Rep. Edmund S. Villagomez (Cov-Saipan), seeks to increase jail term for crimes in tourist sites to one-half the maximum allowable under the law of five years, whichever is more, without the possibility of parole.

"Of course I'm frustrated and I'm not happy with what I've been reading in the newspapers and seeing in the news on TV. Basically, most of the enforcement is under the Executive Branch. What we could do in the Legislature is create laws to hopefully deter such actions," said Villagomez, who chairs the House's Commerce and Tourism Committee.

Unlike an earlier bill introduced in the House, he said his measure will apply not only to crimes against tourists but crimes against everyone in general.

"Currently there are no minimum penalties. It's just like zero to 10 years. That could be anything from one day... This is an idea that should've been introduced before," Villagomez said.

the mentor meeting for an hour with their mentees, with structured activities facilitated by Montgomery once every two weeks until June 2012, which is equivalent to 10 sessions.

Montgomery said they highly discourage pulling out in the middle of the program since it will do "significant damage" to the student. "These students are kids that most likely don't have a dependable relationship at home," she said.

The counselor also noted that the students' parents, who have been receptive of the program, will play "a big part" in the mentor selection process for their children so they "are not being left out of this whole thing." "I think that's very important so that they understand where we're going and that we're not replacing them," she added.

The students, Montgomery said, "will make the same mistake every time" which is why mentors "cannot expect to see dramatic changes because they're very slim." "But you will see slight changes and that really is all we're hoping for."

"If this is successful, we will build upon it because the outcomes have been so drastic in other public school systems that we really have high hopes for this program. But of course, the key to this is volunteers."

For an application packet or for more information, call 237-3177 or email shimiko.montgomery@cnmipss.org.

Villagomez hopes bill to deter crimes vs tourists gets moving

He seeks to introduce the bill at the soonest possible time in the House, considering the spate of crimes against tourists in the past several weeks,

"Depends on the calendar. It only needs to appear for a day and we can act on it. The main point of the bill is to deter these kinds of actions, especially that tourism is our only industry right now. I feel that everyone is also stepping up even us as legislators should step up and this is one way in terms of exercising our power," said Villagomez.

Just this month, *Saipan Tribune* records show that five robbery incidents have been perpetrated against tourists.

Last Oct. 10, a man robbed a 51-year-old woman who was playing golf at Coral Ocean Point with her daughter. The next day, on Oct. 11, a man armed with a screwdriver robbed a Russian female tourist at Suicide Cliff in Marpi and drove off with her rented car.

A week later on Oct. 18, a man robbed an elderly Japanese couple who were playing golf at the Marianas Country Club in Marpi. The next day, Oct. 19, a car rented by a Norwegian tourist was burglarized at Ladd Beach.

Last Oct. 27, a robber struck at the Kingfisher Golf Course in Talofo noon.



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

JVA No. 11-058

Opening Date: Wednesday, October 26, 2011
Closing Date: Wednesday, November 2, 2011

Stipulated Order II Project Coordinator

DUTIES: COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION (CUC) is a government entity that provides power, water and wastewater service on Saipan and power and water services on Tinian and Rota in the NMI. This position is under the supervision of the Technical Manager for Oil (TMO) or his/her designee. Position shall be primarily responsible for oversight of projects and compliance activities including oil management in support of the Stipulated Order (SO) of the United States of America vs. the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The "Project Coordinator (PC)" shall assist the TMO for overseeing, all oil spill prevention, preparedness and response operations and compliance activities and deliverables, on a daily basis, as required by stipulated order. The PC shall also function as the Acting TMO during the absence or non-availability of EPA and will be the person responsible for maintaining regular contact with EPA staff regarding section 311 CWA compliance issues, including representation in the US Federal court and other regulatory agencies. In the absence of the TMO, PC will have authority to make decisions for the management and operations of oil related items required by stipulated order.

LOCATION: Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: Pursuant to qualifications \$50,000.00 to \$74,989.00 per annum; Un-classified; Un-graded.

POSITIONS: One.
CONTRACT: Two-year

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS: Completion of four (4) years of college or its equivalent with major work in engineering, with the following :

- 10 years project administration and management, including overseeing work of contractors and company staff in an executive management position with proven management and communication skills.
- Environmental compliance, with a min of three (3) years of experience with oil spill, prevention, preparedness and response, environmental assessment related to power plant operations and extensive knowledge of DEQ and EPA regulations.
- 5 years experience in preparing bid or request for quotations and proposals.
- 5 years experience in contract negotiation and preparation.

Desirable:

- Prior experience of staff training and development.
- Master's degree in engineering and registration as professional engineer pursuant to the National Council of Engineering Examiners standards in civil, mechanical or chemical engineering.
- Certification in API tank inspection.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

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Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

JVA No. 11-059

Opening Date: Wednesday, October 26, 2011
Closing Date: Wednesday, November 2, 2011

Assistant Engineer (Electrical)

DUTIES: Under the general supervision of the Deputy Director for Rota or his/her designee. Assists with designs, executes, coordinates, or oversees assigned pieces of projects to ensure adherence with applicable specifications and standards. Assists the public with a variety of inquiries and requests; provides technical information on projects. Maintains project files; prepares related correspondence. Prepare RFPs. Assists with design calculations, engineering drawings, and sketch preparations. Prepare technical and engineering reports. Performs system loss and efficiency studies. Performs research for Engineers. Performs other duties of a similar nature or level as required.

LOCATION: Power Plant, Rota, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.

SALARY: \$23,200.00 to \$33,640.00 per annum; un-classified; un-graded.

POSITIONS: One.
CONTRACT: Not Contracted.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS: Bachelor's Degree in Electrical Engineering. Knowledge of: Safe work practices; Applicable Federal, State, and/or Local laws, rules, and regulations; Basic project management principles; Engineering Math; Engineering principles and practices; Skill in: Interpreting and applying Federal, State, and/or Local laws, rules, and regulations; Preparing a variety of technical reports and/or documentation; Presenting technical information to management, public groups, and other related individuals; Trouble-shooting and problem solving; Reading and interpreting scaled drawings; Preparing specifications, plans, and cost estimates; Conducting studies; Using CAD programs to prepare plans for small projects and exhibits; Using computers and related software applications; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

JVA No. 11-061

Opening Date: Wednesday, October 26, 2011
Closing Date: Wednesday, November 2, 2011

Trades Technician (Mechanic)

DUTIES: Under the general supervision of the Deputy Director for Rota or his/her designee. Provides direction to Trades Assistants to include assigning and monitoring tasks and providing direction. Performs journey level operations, maintenance and/or repairs in the service area assigned. Install new plant and equipment. Operate and maintain plant and equipment. Performs preventative maintenance in service area assigned. Maintains level of supplies and equipment. Positions assigned to Power Generation are also responsible for: Control room Operations and load dispatch. Monitor and balance generator and feeder loads. Start up and synchronize generator sets. Monitoring lubrication oil and fuel consumption. Check and monitor engine oil and cooling water temperatures and pressures. Check and monitor bearing, exhaust gas and charge air temperatures. Record readings and report generator and feeder trips to plant management. Prepare switching programs and coordinate distribution line switching for plant and field staff. Monitoring loads on feeders and generators. Incinerating used oil and carry out SPCC plan routine work. Perform preventive maintenance and overhauls on plant and equipment. Troubleshoot and rectify faults on plant and equipment. Test and calibrate equipment. Condition monitoring and routine testing of generators, transformers and motors. Perform housekeeping duties. Performs other duties of a similar nature or level as required.

LOCATION: Power Plant, Rota, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.

SALARY: \$17,282 to \$25,059 per annum; un-classified; un-graded.

POSITIONS: One.
CONTRACT: Not Contracted.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS: High School Diploma, General Education Diploma, or Adult Basic Education and four years of increasingly responsible, proven experience in the trade—in this case mechanic. Knowledge of: Principles and procedures of service area assigned; Inspection and troubleshooting principles; Preventative maintenance principles; Inventory control principles; Basic mathematics. Skill in: Preparing cost and materials estimates; Performing preventative maintenance; Performing journey level maintenance and installations in assigned service area; Performing site inspections and recognizing problem areas; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

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Insular representatives want full funding for LIHEAP

Led by CNMI Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan, all five representatives of U.S. insular areas have requested that Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius provide the full funding authorized by law for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, or LIHEAP. Current funding is only \$6 million annually, but Sebelius has the legal authority to set aside almost four times more. In the Marianas the

limited funding means eligible households receive less energy assistance than they need.

"People in the Northern Marianas and the other U.S. insular areas face energy costs that are two to three times higher than the national average," according to Sablan. "And the secretary of HHS is supposed to take need into consideration when allocating funds. Yet since the program began, the insular areas have only been get-

200 seedlings to help Manta Ray Band's Olympic journey

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan Southern High School principal Jesse Tudela called on the community Monday to help the Manta Ray Band in securing funding for its Olympic trip next year by sponsoring a tree worth \$100.

He disclosed that the Division of Forestry, with the assistance of CNMI Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan, has donated 200 seedlings to the group to help them raise funds for their trip.

As of Monday, Tudela said that SSHS has raised only has \$30,000 for the trip, which is estimated to cost up to \$300,000. He said the \$30,000 represent pledges, donations, and educational tax credit received by the school this year.

Tudela is optimistic that they will be able to come up with the money through an upcoming series of fundraisers for the group.

This week, the band organized a Halloween dance fundraiser in the campus, the proceeds of which went directly to the band's account.

The SSHS Manta Ray Band will send a 50-member contingency and 10 chaperons to the 2012 Summer Olympics in Lon-

don. The Olympics is slated for July 27 to Aug. 12, 2012. Each member will also be asked to pay \$1,500 for the two-week travel.

The band had performed at the 2008 Beijing Olympics nearly three years ago and had a remarkable performance two years ago in New York City's Carnegie Hall.

Manta Ray Band members, Tudela said, are among the few handpicked musicians from around the world that will make up the musical orchestra for the important event.

Besides the seedling fundraiser, the school is also looking for online sponsors through its website. Mini-concerts are also scheduled this month and in Christmas to generate additional funds.

In February next year, SSHS will also organize a golf tournament and will work with the Coral Ocean Point to make it happen.

Tudela hopes that the creation of a fundraising committee will bring positive results to the group.

Last week, the group appealed to the Saipan legislative delegation for assistance. Tudela said no assurance has been given by the delegation yet.

ting the bare minimum authorized by law. It's time to change that."

Sablan wrote the letter to Sebelius, laying out the case for higher funding. The delegates from American Samoa, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the resident commissioner from Puerto Rico all signed off on the letter, too.

"The law authorizes the secretary to set aside up to 0.5 percent of the annual appropriation for LIHEAP to the islands," Sablan said. "But right now we are only getting 0.135 percent, about \$6 million for all of us.

"When you divide that among the insular areas the Northern Marianas gets the least of all,

just 1.3 percent, compared to 1.7 percent for American Samoa, 3.6 percent for Guam, 3.4 percent for the Virgin Islands, and 90 percent for Puerto Rico. Of course, Puerto Rico has the largest population.

"The secretary is also supposed to take our energy costs into consideration. In the NMI electricity cost on average 28.2 cents per kilowatt hour in 2009 compared 11.5 cents nationally.

"This is not a case of fighting for a larger slice of the pie, however," Sablan added. "First we have to increase the size of the pie by getting the secretary to provide the full 0.5 percent that the insular areas should be receiving.

"Once we have that settled, then there will be more LIHEAP assistance in all the insular areas, even if there are some new adjustments in distribution based upon current population data and energy costs."

The 2010 allocation for the Northern Marianas was \$76,470. Sablan's request for a full 0.5 percent of LIHEAP funds for the insular areas could increase that to \$205,857.

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program assists low income households, particularly those that pay a high proportion of household income for home energy. Home energy is defined by statute as a source

of heating or cooling in residential dwellings.

In addition to the effort to raise the LIHEAP set-aside for the insular areas, Sablan has also introduced legislation, H.R. 3063, that redirects a portion of

Leveraging Incentive Grants to the insular areas. The Leveraging Incentive program authorizes supplemental LIHEAP funding for grantees that acquired non-federal leveraged resources for their LIHEAP programs in the preceding fiscal year.

"We are working on multiple fronts to get more help for people in the Northern Marianas to pay their CUC bills," Sablan said. (PR)



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JVA No. 11-062

Opening Date: Wednesday, October 26, 2011
Closing Date: Wednesday, November 2, 2011

Trades Technician (Mechanic)

DUTIES: Under the general supervision of the Deputy Director for Power or his/her designee. Provides direction to Trades Assistants to include assigning and monitoring tasks and providing direction. Performs journey level operations, maintenance and/or repairs in the service area assigned. Install new plant and equipment. Operate and maintain plant and equipment. Performs preventative maintenance in service area assigned. Maintains level of supplies and equipment. Positions assigned to Power Generation are also responsible for: Control room Operations and load dispatch. Monitor and balance generator and feeder loads.. Start up and synchronize generator sets. Monitoring lubrication oil and fuel consumption. Check and monitor engine oil and cooling water temperatures and pressures. Check and monitor bearing , exhaust gas and charge air temperatures. Record readings and report generator and feeder trips to plant management. Prepare switching programs and coordinate distribution line switching for plant and field staff. Monitoring loads on feeders and generators. Incinerating used oil and carry out SPCC plan routine work. Perform preventive maintenance and overhauls on plant and equipment. Troubleshoot and rectify faults on plant and equipment. Test and calibrate equipment. Condition monitoring and routine testing of generators, transformers and motors. Perform housekeeping duties. Performs other duties of a similar nature or level as required.

LOCATION: Power Generation, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: \$17,282 to \$25,059 per annum; un-classified; un-graded.
POSITIONS: Thirteen
CONTRACT: Not Contracted.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS: High School Diploma, General Education Diploma, or Adult Basic Education and four years of increasingly responsible, proven experience in the trade—in this case mechanic. Knowledge of: Principles and procedures of service area assigned; Inspection and troubleshooting principles; Preventative maintenance principles; Inventory control principles; Basic mathematics. Skill in: Preparing cost and materials estimates; Performing preventative maintenance; Performing journey level maintenance and installations in assigned service area; Performing site inspections and recognizing problem areas; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

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Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JVA No. 11-063

Opening Date: Wednesday, October 26, 2011
Closing Date: Wednesday, November 2, 2011

Trades Technician (Electrical)

DUTIES: Under the general supervision of the Deputy Director for Power or his/her designee. Provides direction to Trades Assistants to include assigning and monitoring tasks and providing direction. Performs journey level operations, maintenance and/or repairs in the service area assigned. Install new plant and equipment. Operate and maintain plant and equipment. Performs preventative maintenance in service area assigned. Maintains level of supplies and equipment. Positions assigned to Power Generation are also responsible for: Control room Operations and load dispatch. Monitor and balance generator and feeder loads.. Start up and synchronize generator sets. Monitoring lubrication oil and fuel consumption. Check and monitor engine oil and cooling water temperatures and pressures. Check and monitor bearing , exhaust gas and charge air temperatures. Record readings and report generator and feeder trips to plant management. Prepare switching programs and coordinate distribution line switching for plant and field staff. Monitoring loads on feeders and generators. Incinerating used oil and carry out SPCC plan routine work. Perform preventive maintenance and overhauls on plant and equipment. Troubleshoot and rectify faults on plant and equipment. Test and calibrate equipment. Condition monitoring and routine testing of generators, transformers and motors. Perform housekeeping duties. Performs other duties of a similar nature or level as required.

LOCATION: Power Generation, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: \$17,282 to \$25,059 per annum; un-classified; un-graded.
POSITIONS: Five
CONTRACT: Not Contracted.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS: High School Diploma, General Education Diploma, or Adult Basic Education and four years of increasingly responsible, proven experience in the trade—in this case electrical. Knowledge of: Principles and procedures of service area assigned; Inspection and troubleshooting principles; Preventative maintenance principles; Inventory control principles; Basic mathematics. Skill in: Preparing cost and materials estimates; Performing preventative maintenance; Performing journey level maintenance and installations in assigned service area; Performing site inspections and recognizing problem areas; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

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Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JVA No. 11-064

Opening Date: Wednesday, October 26, 2011
Closing Date: Wednesday, November 2, 2011

Trades Technician (Operator)

DUTIES: Under the general supervision of the Deputy Director for Power or his/her designee. Provides direction to Trades Assistants to include assigning and monitoring tasks and providing direction. Performs journey level operations, maintenance and/or repairs in the service area assigned. Install new plant and equipment. Operate and maintain plant and equipment. Performs preventative maintenance in service area assigned. Maintains level of supplies and equipment. Positions assigned to Power Generation are also responsible for: Control room Operations and load dispatch. Monitor and balance generator and feeder loads.. Start up and synchronize generator sets. Monitoring lubrication oil and fuel consumption. Check and monitor engine oil and cooling water temperatures and pressures. Check and monitor bearing , exhaust gas and charge air temperatures. Record readings and report generator and feeder trips to plant management. Prepare switching programs and coordinate distribution line switching for plant and field staff. Monitoring loads on feeders and generators. Incinerating used oil and carry out SPCC plan routine work. Perform preventive maintenance and overhauls on plant and equipment. Troubleshoot and rectify faults on plant and equipment. Test and calibrate equipment. Condition monitoring and routine testing of generators, transformers and motors. Perform housekeeping duties. Performs other duties of a similar nature or level as required.

LOCATION: Power Generation, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: \$17,282 to \$25,059 per annum; un-classified; un-graded.
POSITIONS: Four
CONTRACT: Not Contracted.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS: High School Diploma, General Education Diploma, or Adult Basic Education and four years of increasingly responsible, proven experience in the trade—in this case operator. Knowledge of: Principles and procedures of service area assigned; Inspection and troubleshooting principles; Preventative maintenance principles; Inventory control principles; Basic mathematics. Skill in: Preparing cost and materials estimates; Performing preventative maintenance; Performing journey level maintenance and installations in assigned service area; Performing site inspections and recognizing problem areas; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

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Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JVA No. 11-065

Opening Date: Wednesday, October 26, 2011
Closing Date: Wednesday, November 2, 2011

Trades Foreperson (Mechanic)

DUTIES: Under the general supervision of the Deputy Director for Power or his/her designee. Serves as a foreperson, leading a team of workers -assigning and monitoring work and providing technical direction. Trouble shooting and Problem Solving. Plans work and prepares daily schedules and submits for approval. Responsible for teams output and productivity. Performs inspections and monitors subordinates work. Responsible for safety and enforcing CUC policies within the team. Performs inventory spot checks on tools, parts and materials; processes requisitions for necessary tools, parts and materials. Prepares and submits weekly and monthly reports. Provides technical advice and performs journeyman level operations and maintenance level work in the service area assigned. Performs other duties of a similar nature or level as required.

LOCATION: Power Generation, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: \$21,104 to \$30,601 per annum; un-classified; un-graded.
POSITIONS: One
CONTRACT: Not Contracted.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS: High School Diploma or General Education Diploma or Adult Basic Education. Four years of journey-level experience at the level of a Trades Technician, or comparable experience related to the Power Generation area assigned, including one year of experience leading a crew. Graduation from a Vocational/Technical Institution as a mechanic. Knowledge of: Principles and procedures of service area assigned; Inspection and troubleshooting principles; Preventative maintenance principles; Inventory control principles; Mathematics for Technicians. Skill in: Preparing daily schedules, prioritizing and assigning work to staff; Trouble shooting; Preparing cost and materials estimates; Performing preventative maintenance; Performing journey level operations and maintenance in service area; Performing site inspections and recognizing problem areas; Using computers and related software applications; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

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Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JVA No. 11-066

Opening Date: Wednesday, October 26, 2011
Closing Date: Wednesday, November 2, 2011

Trades Foreperson (Electrical)

DUTIES: Under the general supervision of the Deputy Director for Power or his/her designee. Serves as a foreperson, leading a team of workers -assigning and monitoring work and providing technical direction. Trouble shooting and Problem Solving. Plans work and prepares daily schedules and submits for approval. Responsible for teams output and productivity. Performs inspections and monitors subordinates work. Responsible for safety and enforcing CUC policies within the team. Performs inventory spot checks on tools, parts and materials; processes requisitions for necessary tools, parts and materials. Prepares and submits weekly and monthly reports. Provides technical advice and performs journeyman level operations and maintenance level work in the service area assigned. Performs other duties of a similar nature or level as required.

LOCATION: Power Generation, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: \$21,104 to \$30,601 per annum; un-classified; un-graded.
POSITIONS: One
CONTRACT: Not Contracted.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS: High School Diploma or General Education Diploma or Adult Basic Education. Four years of journey-level experience at the level of a Trades Technician, or comparable experience related to the Power Generation area assigned, including one year of experience leading a crew. Graduation from a Vocational/Technical Institution as an electrician. Knowledge of: Principles and procedures of service area assigned; Inspection and troubleshooting principles; Preventative maintenance principles; Inventory control principles; Mathematics for Technicians. Skill in: Preparing daily schedules, prioritizing and assigning work to staff; Trouble shooting; Preparing cost and materials estimates; Performing preventative maintenance; Performing journey level operations and maintenance in service area; Performing site inspections and recognizing problem areas; Using computers and related software applications; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

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Saipan-born Coast Guardsman helps in Tokelau mission

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A Saipan-born member of the U.S. Coast Guard was part of a recent humanitarian mission that provided water to the drought-stricken island nation of Tokelau in the South Pacific.

Machinery technician Joseph D. Tenorio was on board U.S. Coast Guard cutter *Walnut*, a 225-foot seagoing buoy tender home-ported in Honolulu, Hawaii.

The U.S. Embassy in Wellington, New Zealand communicated with the Joint Rescue Coordination Center Honolulu early last month to discuss sending an assessment team and drinking water to Tokelau.

The *Walnut* transported about 36,000 gallons of drinking wa-



Tokelau residents have their picture taken with members of the U.S. Coast Guard that helped bring water to the drought-stricken island nation.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

ter to the Pacific island nation, benefiting some 1,500 residents who were affected by severe drought conditions.

The son of Lucy D. Tenorio and Anthony C. Tenorio, Joseph Tenorio graduated from Kagman High School in 2003 before joining the U.S. Coast Guard the following year.

The younger Tenorio said in an e-mail to *Saipan Tribune* that he just reported to the *Walnut* last July.

During the mission, Tenorio said he was part of the pump team that transferred water from the *Walnut* to their small barge then to the water tanks on Tokelau.

"It was a humbling feeling to help out the islanders on Tokelau being that I'm an islander myself," he said.

Tenorio said Tokelau residents

served them lunch that included coconut crab and fresh fish like *palaki*, *hangon*, and *tataga* during their four-day mission.

"The locals were very friendly like how islanders are," added Tenorio.

Besides the Tokelau mission, the *Walnut* has been involved with several other missions in the last 10 years, including a six-month deployment to support the Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom in November 2002, providing assistance to the U.S. Army and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in recovering over 62,000 pounds of marine debris from the Northwest Hawaiian Islands, and deployment to the Gulf of Mexico for the Deep Water Horizon oil spill in May 2010.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

3 Saipan beach sites red-flagged

The Division of Environment Quality has red-flagged the beaches adjacent to the Plumeria Hotel, Aqua Resort Hotel, and Tanapag Meeting Hall and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

DEQ said that samples collected from these sites had excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. (DEQ)

Veterans Week proclamation signing

On Nov. 3, 2011, the CNMI will give thanks to those who have served in the armed forces, salute those who are still in service, and honor the men and women who left America's shores but did not live to be thanked as veterans. A proclamation signing ceremony for Veterans Week—November 7-11—will be held at the Governor's Conference Room at 9am.

On Nov. 11, Veterans Day, we will be celebrating Veterans Day at the American Memorial Park, Court of Honor at 11am. The keynote speaker will be Capt. John Russ, Commodore for Submarine Squadron 15, Joint Region Marianas. All veterans, active and reserve military members, their families, family members of departed veterans, the local Marine scouts, and the public are invited to join the celebration. (PR)

Pohnpei State election set

Pohnpei State election for the offices of governor, lieutenant governor, and the state senate is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, Nov. 8, at the Garapan Sugar King Park Round House. Polls will open from 7am to 7pm. All eligible Pohnpei State voters are encouraged to participate in this important election. For more information, contact your island leaders, or the election coordinators: Welson Saimon, Alkantro Sarapio, Arnold Route, Kohne Ramon, and Nick W. Benjamin. (PR)

DEQ brigade sets Obyan cleanup

The Division of Environmental Quality monthly cleanup brigade will be picking up trash at Obyan Beach on Saipan, on Saturday, Nov. 5, 2011, at 8am. Volunteers will split into groups and clean until 10am, break for drinks, and then continue, if needed. This month, outstanding brigade volunteers who participated in at least 10 monthly cleanups will receive a brigade cap and those who participated in at least three cleanups will receive a green brigade t-shirt. For more information about volunteering, contact the DEQ office at 664-8500/1. (DEQ)

Military training on FDM

The U.S. military would be conducting training at the island of Farallon De Mendenilla on Nov. 1-3, from 4pm to 10pm, and on Nov. 4, from 9am to 5pm. The general location of this activity will be on the island of Farallon de Mendenilla on a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants.

The Emergency Management Office is strongly advising the public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators—to stay away from this area during the time and date indicated. For more information, contact the EMO Operations Section at 322-9528 and 322-9529, VHF Marine CHNL 16, and HF Single Side Band Radio on 5.205.0 or dial CNMI 211. (EMO)

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Opinion

Saipan Tribune

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MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Leaving Iraq: About time

More than eight exhausting years after the euphoria of shock and awe that launched the invasion of Iraq, America's troops are coming home. It's about time.

President Obama's critics are wrong to vilify the president for the decision to pull out at the end of this year on a number of counts.

First of all, the withdrawal date was set by a Republican president who began this war, George W. Bush. The Status of Forces Agreement with Iraq signed on November 17, 2008, when Mr. Bush was in the White House, leaves no room for ambiguity: "All U.S. forces are to withdraw from all Iraqi territory, waters, and airspace no later than the 31st of December of 2011."

Mr. Bush cut this deal, and it doesn't leave a lot of wiggle room for change. One provision requires formal approval of all parties to the agreement, following constitutional procedures, before any alteration of the schedule can be made. Negotiations made it clear that the Iraqis weren't interested in accepting an occupying force in their country.

Nor would the United States gain anything by becoming such a force. There are too many other demands on Pentagon manpower and defense dollars to stay in Iraq after all this time. In any case, the number of troops being discussed as a residual force, some 3,000 to 5,000, would constitute little more than a symbolic presence, but they would make little difference militarily.

Even if it would have made sense otherwise, the price for staying demanded by the Iraqis was too high. The Iraqis refused to give U.S. troops immunity from prosecution for alleged crimes, a deal-breaker by any definition of that term.

Indeed, that Iraqi leaders would make such a demand at this point borders on the outrageous. More than 4,400 American troops in Iraq have lost their lives. This country has spent more than a trillion dollars in the Iraqi adventure. After all this expenditure of blood and treasure, the United States should not have to beg anyone to stay.

Nor should the Iraqi government view it an imposition on its sovereignty, considering that the people of that country had virtually no popular sovereignty under Saddam Hussein. If Iraqis are worried about their security, they should be the ones making concessions, not the United States.

Does this mean, as Republican critics say, that the United States is retreating from a part of the world that is vital to U.S. national interests?

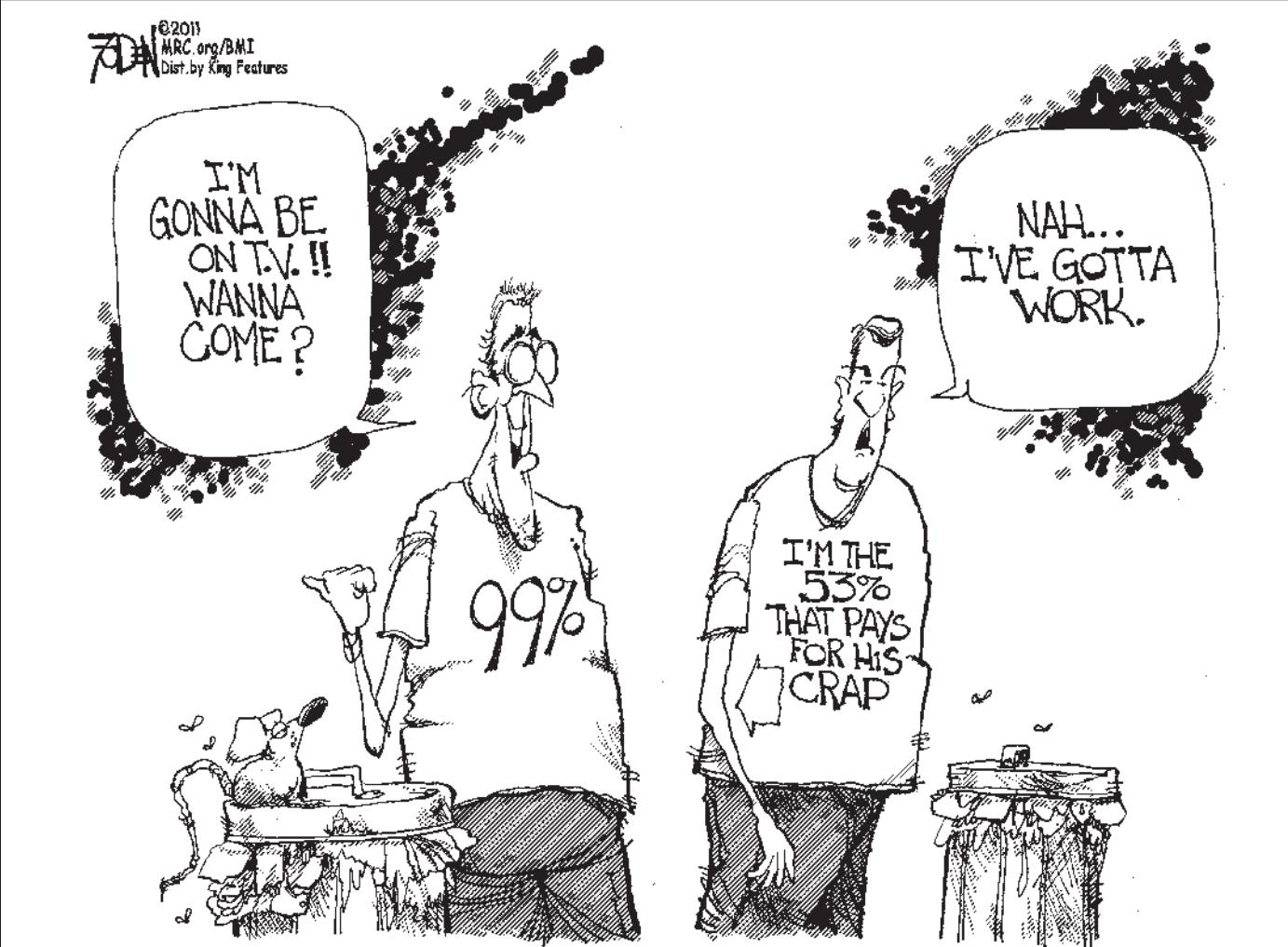
No. Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta, who was visiting Indonesia last week, said the United States will retain some 40,000 troops in the region, along with U.S. aircraft carriers in nearby waters. In addition, a follow-up security agreement with Iraq is being worked that would allow U.S. forces to respond to an emergency in Iraq if called upon.

Finally, there is the issue of popular support for the war, no small matter.

Most Americans ardently backed this war, until it became apparent that the reasons offered by the Bush administration, mainly Saddam's non-existent weapons of mass destruction, were fabricated. That's why Mr. Obama promised to get out, and one reason why many Americans voted for him.

The United States should remain in Iraq diplomatically and offer its help and security support whenever U.S. and Iraqi interests coincide, but it's long past the hour for the troops to come home.

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The third-party wild card

American voters have fired two modern presidents after just one term, Jimmy Carter in 1980 and George H.W. Bush in 1992. Both suffered because the economy was in poor shape, and both faced disaffection within their own parties. But there was another thing those candidates had in common: They both faced relatively strong third-party candidates in the November election.

John B. Anderson in 1980 and H. Ross Perot in 1992 both ran as independent centrists, and while they weren't the only reason the incumbents lost (Ronald Reagan won a majority of the popular vote in 1980), they were certainly a factor.

Until now, handicapping for next year's presidential election has focused on how President Barack Obama might fare in a two-candidate race. Could Obama beat Mitt Romney? Rick Perry? Herman Cain? (In all three cases, the answer is probably yes.)

But there's likely to also be a wild card in this election. Americans Elect, a well-funded "virtual third party," plans to put a centrist presidential candidate on the ballot in all 50 states, and while he or she is unlikely to win the presidential election, the presence of a third candidate could still have a major impact on the outcome.

Americans Elect is a collection of Republicans, Democrats and independents who say they're fed up with the polarization that has poisoned American politics. Some of its backers have previously contributed to Obama, Romney or other candidates. Several are fans of New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg, who has flirted with the idea of running as a third-party centrist. The group's central figure is Peter Ackerman, a wealthy investor and former banker who considers himself an independent and who was active four years ago in a similar effort called Unity08.

The group plans to hold a national primary election on the Internet—a mass-participation exercise that anyone can join. Candidates can nominate themselves, and voters can form committees to "draft" candidates, including politicians drawn from the major parties—Hillary Rodham Clinton, for example, or Jon Huntsman. Candidates who don't want to be drafted can take their names off the ballot, but only after several rounds of voting—so a Clinton boomlet could happen even if the secretary of state says she's not playing. Meanwhile, the group is collecting signatures to put itself on every state's ballot; it says it has collected 1.6 million signatures in California, which should enable it to qualify.

Who will its candidate be? Bloomberg is frequently mentioned, even though he says he doesn't plan to run. So is Huntsman, even though he says he's only interested in the Republican nomination. It might be former Louisiana Gov. Buddy Roemer, who has been trying to break into the Republican race; former Sen. Evan Bayh, D-Ind., who retired after denouncing both parties; or independent business figures such as Starbucks CEO Howard Schultz, who has called on his fellow moguls to stop giving money to politicians.

Americans Elect says it plans to choose a presidential nominee

By DOYLE MCMANUS
Los Angeles Times

Doyle McManus is a columnist for The Los Angeles Times. Readers may send him e-mail at doyle.mcmanus@latimes.com.



(and a vice presidential candidate, who by the group's rules can't come from the same party) by June.

What happens then depends mostly on the shape of the contest between the Democratic and Republican candidates.

A candidate like Bayh might draw disaffected moderate and independent voters away from Obama, making it easier for a Republican like Romney to win. Or a candidate like Bloomberg could attract moderate Republicans if the GOP nominee is seen as too extreme a conservative, a scenario that would benefit Obama.

Both Democrats and Republicans in Americans Elect insist that there's no conspiracy here. They don't have a preferred candidate, they say, and they're not launching this effort with a "spoiler" outcome in mind.

"I'm in this because I think the system is broken, and this is a way to begin fixing it," said Darry Sragow, a Los Angeles lawyer and veteran of California Democratic politics who is the group's national political director. "There's no intention here to spoil anybody's candidacy."

On the other hand, he acknowledged, that could be the effect. "The law of unintended consequences is alive and well," he said.

One potential pitfall for this well-intended effort is the opportunity for mischief. Americans Elect, because of recent court rulings, doesn't have to report who its donors are. Its organizers don't intend it to become a spoiler, but Republicans or Democrats could flood it with money to try to make it one.

Another is that the group is aiming at the wrong target. Presidential elections aren't the main source of polarization in American politics; neither Obama nor Romney is an extremist. Most of the polarization we're seeing comes from Congress, where districts have been drawn to protect incumbents and where donors and interest groups have more influence on the nominating process.

The group's organizers say they understand that. "To change the system, you have to change it at the level of Congress and state legislatures," Sragow said. "But we think the national level is the best place to get started."

That start is certain to be an interesting experiment no matter what happens. But its real potential will come in 2014 and beyond—if it can stay on the ballot and break the two parties' oligopoly in congressional elections, where the real problem lies.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Planning the future of the NMI

So why must we plan for our future?

A set of a fully thought out plan "provides a clear sense of direction and confidence in understanding where we're going and what needs to be done in the process. It permits private and public sector managers the opportunity to collectively examine and analyze alternative course of action with greater understanding of the likely consequences of specific plans."

The planning process "forces managers to shake off their inertia and insular outlook; it induces them to look beyond their noses, beyond today and tomorrow, and beyond immediate concerns. It encourages them to probe and cut through complexities and uncertainties before them and gain control over the elements of change."

It also "reduces the incidence of impulsive and arbitrary decisions and ad hoc actions; it obviates exclusive dependence on the mercies of luck and chance elements; it reduces the probability of major errors and failures in managerial actions. It injects a measure of discipline in managerial thinking as the plan moves into the implementation stage." It encourages smooth collective action as a single team.

With an accumulated history of failure to forging a financially solvent government, we ponder what's next as the high tide of bankruptcy begins to rush ashore.

We never had a set of plans or blueprint to follow stated goals or mission statement. Therefore, there's no chance whatsoever for retrospective review of success or failure on fully thought out policies. It's all ad hoc or helter-skelter, thus the deepening mess. The prevailing attitude of inconsequence has dangerously hardened into some strange culture of arrogance and dismissive acquiescence.

Imagine the benefits we would reap if we had a planned future. It would have made a difference between mediocrity and excellence. Just acting would change the parameters of old time *māñana* habit into proactively finding solutions based on reasoned analysis. But we've failed. We have neither mediocrity nor ex-

cellence to use for analysis on the radar screen of performance.

As it is now, there's no plan to guide us forward. You can see it clearly in the current state of dystopia—where nothing works—that leaves most folks pondering the imponderable. A classic is the Retirement Fund. We loaded it with good intentions but must now swallow its dire consequence—bankruptcy. Call it self-government, island style, spend every penny to death!

At any rate, a recent news item says the administration would be working on a socio-economic plan soon. Six years into its term? Perhaps the plan by Interior's OIA is just as timely on this score. It's time to work on a partnership basis over delightfully empty platitudes. It should put the issue into perspective. Uncle Sam is coming in to assist organize the net effect of disorientation and obvious lack of organization in strengthening local self-government. You may subsequently call it "takeover" or "federal interference" but OIA knows the gut sentiment of governance, unfortunately.

Unless the NMI engages thoughtful and critical planning with resolve to make quick shifts within context to any of its plans' components, we're leaving everything to luck and chance. As it is, even the captain can't navigate our ship claiming he's lost his navigational tools. This is what happens when the team hits ground, confused over the direction of its goal post. Let's do it! The tide moves in and out of our shores but never waits for anybody.

■ ■ ■

Think tank a must

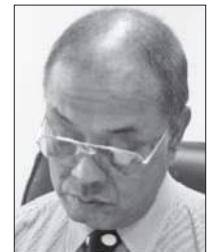
My salute to PSS for taking the leap of faith by establishing its "think tank" to refine ongoing educational policies and the future of education in the NMI. It takes appropriate critical analysis of programs to monitor their intended goal, whether it was accomplished at a set period, and what needs to be undertaken to improve it.

If I may illustrate a point: In recent years, the School of Education at NMC was very successful in the education and placement of the best

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

DelRosario is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section



teachers Marianas-wide. In short, it produced the best teachers between here, Guam and the State of Aloha. Now, this is something to look at and emulate as we move into other specialties beyond education.

It makes it imperative that the administration establishes, under its OMB a fully equipped socio-economic division headed by an economist of stature. This office should also include a research and development center, its role or syllabus fully and clearly defined.

■ ■ ■

The Legislature must also use its Legislative Bureau to support the work of all standing committees as legislation is submitted for review. Unless it fully uses the bureau, the work of the Legislature would be compromised unnecessarily. For instance, let's say the administration submits a socio-economic plan for review and disposition. Is the bureau equipped with expertise to dissect such plans? If not, will it use its funds to retain appropriate expertise to assist in the detailed analysis of such a plan if only to allow policymakers a clue on what's in the plan?

Assuming too that a certain legislator wishes to explore claims of the NMI's rights to its territorial and 200-mile EEZ. Is the bureau financially equipped to retain a worldwide expert on international law of the sea? If we wish to make preludes to establishing and fostering networking with the U.S. Congress and White House, is the bureau equipped with the people to begin this legwork to establish our right hand, fully cognizant of what the left hand is doing? These are just thoughts to begin putting issues into perspective.

By PETER GOLDMARK

Newsday

Peter Goldmark, a former publisher of the International Herald Tribune, headed the climate program at the Environmental Defense Fund. He wrote this for Newsday.



ally celebrate, the fact that everyone is out there to make a buck and to be as aggressive—yes, even cutting a few corners—as the law will allow.

So what did we do? We eased up on the regs that required these financial wheeler-dealers to be reasonably transparent and honest. In this case, we needed rules that were clearer and more forceful, not less regulation.

Then I look around and ask: Why haven't we moved on the big issues that threaten us? Why have we done virtually nothing to create jobs, to get us off imported oil, to clean up the tax code, to address global warming, to reform our health programs? It has to be because of Congress. Our situation is dire, but our condition is befuddled and paralyzed—and the only surplus we're running is one of ideological cant.

And when a legislature is befuddled and paralyzed, it's usually a reflection—one way or another—of those of us who elect them. It's called democracy. The buck stops here.

When will Congress do its duty?

A friend of mine tells me Europe is carrying four burdens that doom it to long-term decline. He ticks them off: a population that isn't replacing itself, a bureaucratic overlay that stifles initiative and clogs up the private sector, heavy dependence on foreign energy imports, and over-indebtedness.

The United States, he tells me, is in somewhat better shape, because we now labor under only three of these four loads. Our demographics combine strong immigration patterns with an adequate fertility rate to keep our human capital increasing qualitatively and quantitatively.

But what about that statement that we, like Europe, are smothered by a layer of bureaucracy and regulation that constrains initiative of all kinds? I thought of examples from my own life.

Taxes—those affect everyone. Filling out the forms has gotten much more complicated than when I began working several decades ago. And I sense less confidence in the basic fairness and necessity of the tax system by the public than I used to notice. Are there more loopholes and arcane gimmicks? Yes. Is it less transparent and fair? Again, yes.

I enrolled in Medicare a few years ago. Do I find the amount of paperwork and forms enough to choke a horse? No. I find a lot of the explanations for partial reimbursement hard to fathom—especially when the party informing me of those decisions is a private sector contractor trying to minimize costs and tell me as little as

possible. But on the whole I find the system better than my private secondary insurer.

What about Social Security? I find Social Security to be one of the best run large organizations, private or public, I have ever dealt with—and I've dealt with a lot of them.

But when I look elsewhere, I worry. Drive through the older parts of our major eastern cities—New York, Newark, Philadelphia and others.

You see empty factories with broken windows and abandoned buildings scrawled with graffiti. You wonder: If there were a local public agency with the authority to swiftly condemn and clear this land—just take everything down, clean up the site and put it up for sale for development—wouldn't that generate opportunity and investment for those areas? Today those sites are choked by weeds, waste, and a soggy blanket of complex regulatory regimes and overlapping public mandates.

What about the financial sector? We got into trouble in 2007-08 in part because we deregulated that industry. People were trading in derivatives and credit default swaps that sometimes neither buyer nor seller understood. And we all read about the famous "no-doc" mortgages, where all you had to do was sign and someone threw a couple of hundred thousand dollars at you—with a lot of fine print that strangled you later.

Our deregulation of the financial industry was reckless and incomprehensible. We Americans not only recognize, but actu-

lies here and there is also disturbing. What does this say when a person has two families? Why do they want to stay? Easy, because that person is ashamed of facing reality. Their children here are U.S. citizens, but some of these individuals also have children in another country. How can they look their children in the eye and tell them that they cannot come home or refuse to come home to them? What about the shame they have when they admit to having numerous children and another spouse? What about the children?

Lawsuits take time and the appeals process can take up to two years or more. During this time the plaintiff cannot work, so the question remains: 1. What did the people do to save money, apply for green cards or prepare for their families and their own futures when they were here? Think about the children in their home countries that won't be fed or housed. What about them?

A person fighting this cannot work after Nov. 27, unless petitioned. I wonder if some of these people can look at their children, or their spouses, in the faces (in their home country) and tell them

they won't return to them or won't be putting food on the table for a long time because they cannot work or send money.

Another letter from another individual said that people shouldn't go back because they lose their government benefits like food stamps and free medical for their children or the children will be abandoned. Are you serious? That has got to be the most ridiculous argument I have ever heard in my life. If a person abandons their children here or anywhere, they are not fit parents in the first place, especially if the reason to stay is to receive food stamps or medical benefits because of them. As the saying goes: When the going gets tough, the tough get going. Think of the solutions, not the problem. God forbid we force someone to leave the country and force them to buy their own food and medical insurance. Did they save money for this when their contract ended? What sad times we live in when we do this.

Keith Brooks

Dandan, Saipan

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Sad times

In response to Malou H. Berueco's comments yesterday titled "My Reply," I only have a few comments. First, a contract worker is just that: contracted. That means when the contract ends, the person has to relocate or find a new job. Which may mean they have to leave where they are living or find a new job. I have lived in six countries and have abided by the laws in those countries. When my contract was over, I left the country. I saved my money and sold my belongings to ensure I would be able to go home. I never waited until the last moment to scramble. I planned ahead and was saddened I had to leave, but the laws of those countries prevented me from staying.

Your accusation about people being homesick and having fami-

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

| TODAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY |
|--|---|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | | | | |
| Partly cloudy and breezy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 25 mph. | Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. East winds 15 to 20 mph. | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. |

▲ 87° ▾ 77°

▲ 86° ▾ 77°

▲ 86° ▾ 77°

▲ 87° ▾ 77°

▲ 87° ▾ 77°

Micronesia

| | | | |
|---------------|---------------|------|------|
| Guam and Rota | Thunderstorms | ▲ 84 | ▼ 78 |
| Palau | Rain | ▲ 87 | ▼ 78 |
| Yap | Rain | ▲ 86 | ▼ 77 |
| Chuuk | Thunderstorms | ▲ 83 | ▼ 76 |
| Pohnpei | Thunderstorms | ▲ 83 | ▼ 74 |
| Kosrae | Thunderstorms | ▲ 85 | ▼ 76 |
| Majuro | Thunderstorms | ▲ 83 | ▼ 76 |

Around The Globe

| | | | |
|----------------|----------------|------|------|
| Auckland | Showers | ▲ 66 | ▼ 58 |
| Beijing | Mostly Sunny | ▲ 61 | ▼ 48 |
| Hong Kong | Sunny | ▲ 84 | ▼ 75 |
| Honolulu | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 85 | ▼ 75 |
| London | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 59 | ▼ 54 |
| Los Angeles | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 71 | ▼ 52 |
| Manila | Thundershowers | ▲ 87 | ▼ 81 |
| Melbourne | Showers | ▲ 62 | ▼ 55 |
| Miami | Mostly Cloudy | ▲ 81 | ▼ 71 |
| New York | Showers | ▲ 56 | ▼ 38 |
| Osaka | Mostly Cloudy | ▲ 74 | ▼ 60 |
| Paris | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 59 | ▼ 50 |
| Pusan | Mostly Cloudy | ▲ 71 | ▼ 62 |
| Rome | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 72 | ▼ 50 |
| Salem | Sunny | ▲ 56 | ▼ 32 |
| San Francisco | Sunny | ▲ 74 | ▼ 51 |
| Seoul | Mostly Cloudy | ▲ 68 | ▼ 55 |
| Tokyo | Mostly Sunny | ▲ 70 | ▼ 60 |
| Washington, DC | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 60 | ▼ 39 |

Tides

| Saipan Harbor | | |
|---------------|-------|---------------------|
| 6:34 AM | Today | Low Tide: 0.1 Feet |
| 2:06 PM | Today | High Tide: 1.8 Feet |
| 7:50 PM | Today | Low Tide: 1.1 Feet |

Sunrise/Sunset

| Today | 6:13 AM | 5:48 PM | Today | 12:05 PM | 11:54 PM |
|----------|---------|---------|----------|----------|----------|
| Thursday | 6:14 AM | 5:47 PM | Thursday | 12:48 PM | |
| Friday | 6:14 AM | 5:47 PM | Friday | 1:27 PM | 12:45 PM |
| Saturday | 6:14 AM | 5:47 PM | Saturday | 2:05 PM | 1:34 PM |
| Sunday | 6:15 AM | 5:46 PM | Sunday | 2:41 PM | 2:21 PM |

Moonrise/Moonset

| Today | 6:13 AM | 5:48 PM | Today | 12:05 PM | 11:54 PM |
|----------|---------|---------|----------|----------|----------|
| Thursday | 6:14 AM | 5:47 PM | Thursday | 12:48 PM | |
| Friday | 6:14 AM | 5:47 PM | Friday | 1:27 PM | 12:45 PM |
| Saturday | 6:14 AM | 5:47 PM | Saturday | 2:05 PM | 1:34 PM |
| Sunday | 6:15 AM | 5:46 PM | Sunday | 2:41 PM | 2:21 PM |

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

ISLAND SNAPSHOT

Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.

BUSINESS

Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.

SAMUT SARI

Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.

TRAVELOGUE

Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

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- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan

To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 5, 2011

DEPARTURES

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

C05062 2:20am 2:50am 1, 5

SAIPAN (SPN)-ROTA (ROP)

C05064 4:25am 5:00am 1, 5

SAPAN-GUAM (GUM)

C05070 4:25am 5:15am 2, 3, 4, 6, 7

C05064 4:25am 6:00am 1, 5 via ROP

5K384 7:20am 8:10am 2, 6

C05068 7:55am 8:45am 3, 6

C05068 8:30am 9:20am 1, 2, 4, 5, 7

C05074 12:10pm 1:00pm 1, 4, 5, 7

C05076 3:05pm 3:55pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7

5K386 5:50pm 6:40pm 3, 4, 7

C05078 6:35pm 7:25pm Daily

5K382 9:20pm 10:10pm 1, 5

C05072 9:35pm 10:25pm Daily

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

C05064 5:30am 6:00am 1, 5

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN (SPN)

C05062 3:20am 3:55am 1, 5

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

C05062 2:20am 3:55am 1, 5 via ROP

C05069 2:45am 3:35am 2, 3, 4, 6, 7

5K387 6:30am 7:20am 1, 3, 4, 5, 7

C05071 6:35am 7:25am 3, 6

C05071 7:00am 7:50am 1, 2, 4, 5, 7

C05073 10:05am 10:55am 1, 2, 4, 5, 7

C05075 1:40pm 2:30pm 1, 4, 5, 7

C05077 5:10pm 6:00pm Daily

5K383 6:30pm 7:20pm 2, 6

C05079 8:10pm 9:00pm Daily

SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NGO)

5K212 8:20am 10:55am 4, 7

Business

A JVA update

Question: In your Oct. 18 article you mentioned that David Gulick had said that he didn't think that radio announcements met the good faith effort standard to determine if qualified U.S. workers were available. Later in the week, a story ran in the *Marijuana Variety* that said that it was okay to advertise on the radio and the TV. Which is right?

My article said: "I am aware of employers advertising on the radio, which Mr. Gulick said, in his last presentation at the Saipan Chamber meeting, would not meet the "good faith effort" standard, and of others that are advertising only once, which would also seem to fall short."

This caused great concern among some folks, who contacted the *Saipan Tribune* editor, who passed their concerns on to me in a manner which he said was much more temperate than how it was expressed to him. I was concerned also, because I'm careful about what I write. So, I checked with several people that were present and they confirmed Mr. Gulick's comment. I see no need to change that statement.

However, things have moved on positively as a result of their concern and I wish to applaud that and help employers to be aware of new information on this issue. The concerned folks did accomplish something significant by contacting Ms. Marie Sebrechts, USCIS Southwest Region Media Manager, who responded:

(Unidentified Concerned Person), It was nice speaking with you.

To clarify...

There are no specific requirements for advertising job vacancies in relation to filing an I-129CW for a CNMI-only Transitional Worker position. Employers must complete and sign the Employer Attestation (supplemental sheet to I-129CW petition) in which they confirm that there are no qualified U.S. workers available for the position.

USCIS does not dictate how an employer determines that there is no qualified U.S. worker available. The employer must use his or her own judgment in advertising a job so that he/she can make this attestation. Any form of advertising would be acceptable if it provided sufficient opportunity for people to hear about a job - including, but not limited to TV, radio, print, online... An employer can submit evidence with the I-129-CW petition of how he/she decided no qualified U.S. worker was available (e.g. how, when, where, how often advertised) or should be able to explain this should USCIS ask for evidence.

So there—now it's clarified. Well, maybe. More on that thought in just a moment.

Another individual, attempting to clarify this matter, contacted Mr. Gulick, citing the inquiries being re-

HR MATTERS

By FRANK GIBSON
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Frank L. Gibson, SPHR, GPHR, owner of HR Support, CNMI, has been a resident of the CNMI for more than 14 years. One of the founding members of the CNMI Chapter of the Society for Human Resource Management, he has worked both as a line-manager of human resources and in the Human Resource Office.



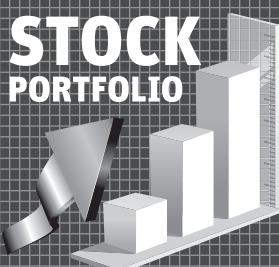
ceived as to whether radio announcements are acceptable evidence of a good faith effort to recruit U.S. workers, and asked if USCIS had any position on this issue. Mr. Gulick, with his well-known and charming succinctness, replied: "We do not." His position-reply does not alter my position on his earlier comment.

Let me clarify. My intent in writing these articles is to offer the reader the best human resource management information and advice I can provide through personal HR knowledge and experience and through research. Sometimes it conflicts with other individual's interests. For those whose interests involve non-compliance with the law or abusing the trust of their employees, I have no sympathy or regret. For those individuals also doing their best to assist employers and workers, conflict is not intended, but sometimes does result from differing perceptions.

In this case the conflict of opinions has worked out to everyone's advantage, especially employers, because they now have guidance from USCIS that was not provided in writing or in this much detail before. Despite Ms. Sebrechts' statement "that there are no specific requirements for advertising job vacancies" and Mr. Gulick's few and I'm sure well-chosen words about the USCIS position on the issue, "We have none," Ms. Sebrechts has stated that all forms of advertising are acceptable. This is more direct guidance than was provided in the Final Rule Q&A, and more than Mr. Gulick expressed in his 49 or so programs during his visit here.

However, not to be overlooked, the burden is still on the employer to make the attestation that no qualified US workers were available for the position(s). Assuming the content of the advertisement was reasonable in its requirements and period of announcement, the employer, if challenged on the form of advertisement, can say "I used my best judgment."

In answer to the question, it's not a matter of which is right. Things have moved on. All advertising methods now officially appear to be acceptable—well, not smoke signals or sand-writing. Use your best judgment!



LEADING INDICATORS

DOW

11,955.00
-276.10
-2.26%

S&P

1,253.30
-31.79
-2.74%

NASDAQ

2,684.41
-52.74
-1.93%

EXCHANGE RATES

| | | | | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|--------|--------------------|---------|------------------|---------|
| In U.S. dollar terms | Australian Dollar | 0.9443 | Hong Kong Dollar | 7.7670 | Philippine Peso | 42.7716 |
| | British Pound | 0.6228 | Indian Rupee | 49.2368 | Singapore Dollar | 1.2491 |
| | Canadian Dollar | 0.9968 | Indonesian Rupiah | 8,888.0 | South Korean Won | 1,111.7 |
| | Chinese Yuan | 6.3597 | Japanese Yen | 75.8150 | Swiss Franc | 0.8703 |
| | Euro | 0.7136 | Malaysian Ringgit | 3.0781 | Taiwan Dollar | 30.2480 |
| | | | New Zealand Dollar | 1.2298 | Thailand Baht | 30.7598 |

Obama orders FDA to help reduce drug shortages



Obama

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama is directing the Food and Drug Administration to take steps to reduce drug shortages, action he says will help stop a "slow-rolling problem" that puts patients at risk and raises the potential for price gouging.

Obama signed an executive order in the Oval Office on Monday instructing the FDA to take action in three areas: broadening its reporting of potential drug shortages; accelerating reviews of applications to change production of drugs facing potential shortages; and giving the Justice Department more information about possible instances of collusion or price gouging.

Patient deaths have been blamed on the shortages, which tend to affect cancer drugs, anesthetics, drugs used in emergency medicine, and electrolytes needed for intravenous feeding. Hospitals have been forced to buy from secondary sup-

pliers at huge markups. Surgeries and cancer treatments have been delayed.

"Even though the FDA has successfully prevented an actual crisis, this is one of those slow-rolling problems that could end up resulting in disaster for patients and health care facilities all over the country," Obama said.

The president ordered the new steps without congressional approval, saying his administration refused to wait for lawmakers to act on similar legislation pending on Capitol Hill. The measure is part of a White House effort to use executive action to get around congressional Republicans.

Obama said the White House would continue to push lawmakers to pass bipartisan legislation to prevent drug shortages, but said "we can't wait for action on the Hill, we've got to go ahead and move forward."

The president was joined in the Oval

Office by Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius, FDA Commissioner Margaret Hamburg, pharmacy manager Bonnie Frawley, and Jay Cuetara, a 49-year-old San Francisco cancer patient who told an FDA workshop last month how he grappled with a shortage in his chemotherapy drug.

The FDA reported 178 drug shortages last year, and the agency says it continues to see an increase in shortages this year. Major causes of drug shortages are said to be quality or manufacturing problems, or delays in receiving components from suppliers. Drug makers also discontinue certain drugs in favor of newer medications that are more profitable. The FDA does not have authority to force drug makers to continue production of a drug.



BACK TO NORMAL

A Qantas jet prepares to land at Sydney Airport in Sydney, Monday, Oct. 31, 2011. Qantas Airways said its flights were back on schedule Tuesday, a day after an Australian court ruling ended 48 hours of travel chaos stemming from the airline's decision to ground its entire fleet. Qantas, the world's 10th-largest airline, said all flights were operating on time and as scheduled, with the remaining backlog of passengers affected by the two-day grounding expected to be cleared by Tuesday afternoon.

AP

World economy needs China to slow growth gradually

WASHINGTON (AP)—China's high-flying economy is starting to lose altitude. The big question is whether the world's economic superstar will shrink gradually—or so fast that it harms a fragile global economy.

China's comedown is being engineered by its policymakers. They want to slow expansion just enough to cool inflation without sapping job growth.

It's a delicate task.

"Nobody can say with any confidence" if they'll succeed, says Barry Eichengreen, an economics professor at the University of California, Berkeley.

China's explosive growth remains the envy of developed nations like the United States. It grew faster than any other major economy in the April-June quarter, according to The Associated Press' latest quarterly Global Economy Tracker. Only Argentina's much smaller economy matched China's 9.5 percent annual growth rate.

By contrast, the U.S. economy grew at a 1.3 percent rate in the April-June quarter, before expanding 2.5 percent

in the July-September period.

The AP's Global Economy Tracker monitors economic and financial data in 30 countries representing more than 80 percent of global output.

Economists worry that China's economy could suffer what they call a "hard landing." They fear that a sudden plunge in China's growth would harm the economies of the United States, Europe and small countries that need China to buy their coal, copper and other raw materials.

That threat comes as the United States is still struggling to recover from the Great Recession of 2007-2009. And an agreement last week to ease Europe's debt crisis might not prevent the continent from sliding back into a recession that would ripple through the United States and other countries.

When surveyed this year by the Society of Actuaries, corporate risk managers in the United States, Canada and elsewhere said a slowdown in China posed the greatest threat to their business.

Oil drops on jitters about European economy

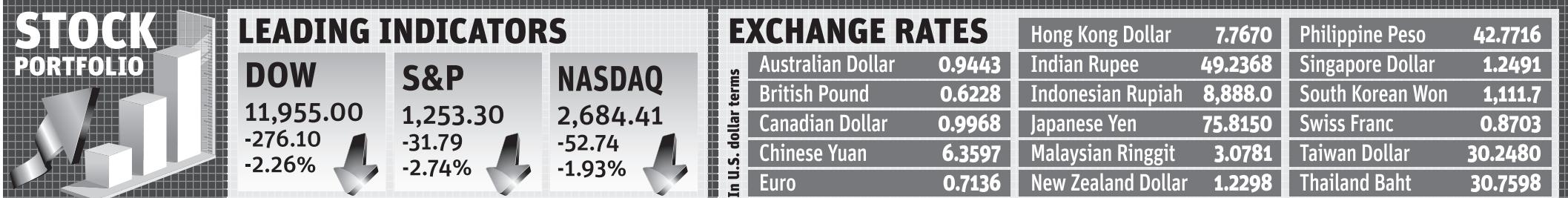
NEW YORK (AP)—The price for a barrel of oil is sliding on renewed jitters about the European economy.

Benchmark crude on Monday dropped \$1.23 to \$92.10 per barrel in New York while Brent crude gave up \$1.19 to \$108.72 in London.

Oil prices jumped last week after European leaders hammered out a deal to lower Greece's debt. But analysts pointed out that Europe will need to slash spending and cut entitlement programs over the next several years to keep budgets in line, and that will hurt oil demand.

The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development warned that debt crisis will for a "marked slowdown" in the European economy next year.

In the U.S., retail gasoline was flat at \$3.443 per gallon.



Nation

Rare October snowstorm wreaks havoc in Northeast

WAYLAND, Mass. (AP)—Hundreds of thousands of people across the Northeast shivered at the prospect of days without heat or lights after a freak October snowstorm over the weekend, and many towns postponed trick-or-treating Monday in what seemed like a mean Halloween prank to some children.

Families huddled under blankets and winter coats at home or waited out the crisis in shelters as utility crews struggled to fix power lines brought down by the storm. Hundreds of schools closed, giving youngsters one of the earliest snow days on record.

"Such a small storm but such a big disaster," said Marina

Shen, who spent Sunday night with her husband and dog at a middle school in Wayland, a Boston suburb of 13,000 where half the homes lost power. Just a few inches fell in Wayland, and most of it had melted by Monday, but overnight temperatures fell below freezing.

"The house is really, really cold. You cannot do anything. It's so dark, cold," Shen said. "Here they give us a hot shower."

From Maryland to Maine, high winds and wet, heavy snow brought down trees, branches and wires Saturday and Sunday. Snowfall amounts ranged from less than inch in some places to 32 inches in the

small town of Peru, Mass., in the Berkshire Mountains.

The storm was blamed for at least 20 deaths, including one in Canada. Most were caused by falling trees, traffic accidents or electrocutions from downed wires. Eight people died in Pennsylvania alone.

More than 3 million homes and businesses in the Northeast lost power at the height of the storm. By early Monday night, that number was nearly 1.8 million.

Some of the same areas were hit hard by the rainy remnants of Hurricane Irene just two months ago, but in many places the utility damage was worse this time. The trees had yet to lose

their leaves and captured all too much of the snow.

"The leaves on the trees have made whole trees and huge branches come down and taken down more wires," said New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie. "It's a huge challenge for everybody."

With the temperature rising again, the storm's effects will probably outlast the snow itself.

Christie said he expected 95 percent of the 375,000 customers in New Jersey without power to have it back by Thursday, though he knew that would be little comfort to people shivering in the dark.

"I know if you are without power today, Thursday seems like

a long time from now," he said.

Companies brought in crews from other states to help, but with lights out and live wires down all over the place, many communities urged children to skip trick-or-treating or at least postpone it until later in the week.

"I was upset because I really wanted to go trick-and-treating and get candy," said 12-year-old McKenzie Gallasso of South Windsor, Conn., who was deciding whether to be a witch or a werewolf when the phone rang with the bad news that town officials were advising families to call off trick-or-treating. "This year I'll have to eat candy from my mom."

Cain says he was 'falsely accused' of harassment

WASHINGTON (AP)—Denying he ever sexually harassed anyone, Republican presidential candidate Herman Cain declared Monday he was falsely accused in the 1990s while he was head of the National Restaurant Association and the allegations are surfacing now as part of a "witch hunt."

The former pizza company executive was responding to a Politico report that said the trade group gave financial settlements to at least two female employees who had accused him of inappropriate sexual behavior.

But throughout the day, Cain offered conflicting responses as to whether he remembered the specifics of the allegations or the existence of settlements with the women. That raised new questions about the candidate who now is at or near the top in many polls on the GOP race.

At an appearance at the National Press Club Monday afternoon, Cain said he did not know if the trade association provided any settlements, and he declined to address specifics of the accusations or any resolution.

"I am unaware of any sort of settlement. I hope it wasn't for much, because I didn't do anything," he said.

But in an interview later with Fox News, Cain said he did know about it. "Yes, there was some sort of settlement or termination," he said.

During his appearance at the press club, he declared: "There's nothing else there to dig up. ... We have no idea the source of this witch hunt, which is really what it is."

In an interview with The Associated Press immediately afterward, Cain first said he had some memory of specific allegations—and then said he was not aware of any.

"Some of them," he responded initially.

Tenn. agrees to stop arresting Occupy protesters

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—Tennessee officials agreed Monday to stop enforcing a new curfew used to dislodge Occupy Nashville protesters from the grounds around the Capitol.

The protesters went to federal court seeking a temporary restraining order against Gov. Bill Haslam, arguing the curfew and arrests of dozens of supporters violated their rights to free speech and freedom of assembly.

State Attorney General's Office Senior Counsel Bill Maret announced at the beginning of a hearing before Judge Aleta Trauger that the state would not fight efforts to halt the policy.

The judge said she had al-

ready decided to grant the restraining order because the curfew was a "clear prior restraint on free speech rights."

"I can't think of a more quintessential public forum than Legislative Plaza," Trauger said.

State troopers used the curfew put into place on Thursday to arrest 29 protesters early Friday and 26 people early Saturday.

Both times a Nashville magistrate refused to jail the protesters, saying the state didn't have probable cause to arrest them. They were released with citations.

The Nashville protesters are part of the six-week-old Occupy movement, which began in lower Manhattan to decry cor-

porate influence in government and wealth inequality. It has spread to cities large and small across the country and around the world.

"This is a huge victory for us because Gov. Haslam has realized the mistake that he made," Occupy Nashville protester Steve Reiter said. "The mass arrests were totally unnecessary."

Reiter said protesters planned to remain in the plaza "for quite a while."

Maret said his office would meet with the plaintiffs to come to an agreement on health and safety issues. He said the state earlier on Monday returned the property it had seized dur-

ing the arrests to its owners.

The suit says Haslam ap-

proved the new curfew after

complaints over three misde-

meanor violations around Leg-

islative Plaza: "an assault, pub-

lic urination and an apparent

tryst beneath a magnolia tree."

Shortly before the hearing, Tennessee Republican Party Chairman Chris Devaney issued a statement calling it "astonishing" that some Democrats had shown support for Occupy Nashville. While he does not mention specific legislators, Democratic Rep. Mike Stewart of Nashville on Saturday called on the governor to rescind the curfew.

Calif. girls joined at chest to be separated

PALO ALTO, Calif. (AP)—In many ways, Angelina and Angelica Sabuco are like many other two-year-olds. The twin sisters love dancing and drawing. Their faces light up when they see a Dora the Explorer game. And for their recent birthday, they enjoyed frosted cakes adorned with Disney princesses.

But unlike most siblings, they can't get away from each other—they were born attached at the chest and abdomen.

On Tuesday, a team of doctors and nurses at Stanford University's Lucile Packard Children's Hospital are planning a nine-hour procedure to give "silent Inah" and "talkative Icah" their independence.

"We want them to live normally," said Ginady Sabuco, the girls' mother. "When they argue, they can be alone. When they play, they can play together or apart. When they don't want to see each other, they won't have to."

Dr. Gary Hartman, the lead surgeon on the girls' case, said keeping the girls joined carries bigger risks for their health. If one conjoined twin dies, the other will die within hours. Muscular and skeletal deformities can also worsen with time.

Hartman, who has done five separation procedures at medical centers around the country, was upbeat about the girls'



Angelica Sabuco, 2, at right, and her twin sister Angelina, left, draw on paper with the help of their mother Ginady Sabuco, center, at the Lucile Packard Children's Hospital, Monday, Oct. 31, 2011 in Stanford, Calif.

prospects. "Our expectation would be that we will have two healthy girls at the end of the operation," he said.

Angelica and Angelina are classified as thoraco-omphalopagus—joined at the chest and abdomen. Their livers, diaphragms, breast bones, chest and abdominal wall muscles are fused. They have separate hearts, brains, kidneys, stomachs and intestines.

The operation will involve

cutting along the girls' skin and muscle and separating their diaphragms and livers. Hartman said severing the liver will be the riskiest part of the procedure because of potential blood loss.

Doctors will then cut any adhesions between the girls' bowels and snip any remaining skin. Separate reconstruction operations will follow.

Hartman said he doesn't expect the children will need intense physical therapy fol-

lowing surgery but they may experience regression with some milestones they've already hit. The girls can walk now despite their face-to-face orientation but may lose that ability, for example, for a few weeks to months while they recover.

They were expected to be in the hospital for two to three weeks. Angelina and Angelica were born in the Philippines and live in San Jose with their parents and 10-year-old brother.

ACROSS THE NATION

Man found dead in tent at Okla. City protest

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)—Police say a man has been found dead inside his tent at a protest at a park in downtown Oklahoma City. Police Lt. Kevin Barnes says the death isn't considered suspicious, but authorities have not determined how the man died. Barnes says someone called 911 about 2:40 p.m. Monday after he was found dead inside his tent at Kerr Park. Protesters have been camped for several weeks at the park as part of an Occupy OKC event coordinated with similar Wall Street protests around the country. Fellow protest participant Mark Faulk says the man was in his early 30s and was homeless. Faulk says the man had delivered a passionate speech Sunday night about the problems of homelessness and drug abuse.

Ore. man with sniper book held without bail

MEDFORD, Ore. (AP)—An Oregon man who authorities fear may have been plotting a sniper attack on a high school football game was ordered held without bail Monday until he goes on trial on federal firearms charges. A federal judge in Medford ruled that Raphael Enrique Amoroso, a 26-year-old self-employed landscaper from Grants Pass, poses a danger to his community. Magistrate Judge Mark D. Clarke said the weapons and the books, each by themselves, did not make Amoroso a danger. But taken together—along with his arrest at age 15 for shooting a pellet gun at a passing boat filled with tourists on the Rogue River, and writing on a classroom desk at 13 that he wanted to kill teachers and students—there was enough evidence to show he posed a danger.

Jury convicts Arizona man in Baseline Killer case

PHOENIX (AP)—An Arizona jury on Monday found a former construction worker guilty of killing nine people in the so-called Baseline Killer case that terrorized the Phoenix area during the summer of 2006. Mark Goudeau was accused of attacking his victims as they went about daily activities, such as leaving work or cooking lunch. Many of the bodies were left with their pants unzipped and partially pulled down. The victims—eight of them women—ranged from 19 to 39 years old. As verdicts were read, Goudeau kept his head down, shaking it periodically.

Asia

Tempers flare on front lines of Thailand's floods

BANGKOK (AP)—Tempers flared along a flood barrier protecting Thailand's capital from a record deluge surging into the city, with angry residents scuffling with security forces Monday in an attempt to force open a floodgate that left their homes swamped.

The confrontation came as Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra said she hoped that the floodwaters could be drained through Bangkok more quickly now that peak high tides that sent the city's main river to record heights have passed. Although much of the city is still dry, the situation remains grim in northern and western neighborhoods where water levels fed by the country's worst flooding in more than a half century are continuing to rise.

The tensions at the Klong Sam Wa floodgate in the city's northeast illustrate the rising anger in some neighborhoods that have been sacrificed to keep Bangkok's central business district and historic heart dry.

The residents grew increasingly agitated as the water levels climbed, and asked authorities to increase the amount of water being let through the gate. They used hammers and pickaxes on Monday to break through an earthen dike around the floodgate to let water out, and pushed and shoved security forces who tried to stop them. Authorities had warned that allowing too much water through



A Thai boy uses a broom to paddle a plastic container along a flooded area at Laksi district in Bangkok, Thailand on Monday, Oct. 31, 2011. AP

the gate could threaten an industrial estate downstream and raise the level of a main canal leading to inner Bangkok. Yingluck said the government had agreed to open the gate wider, but ordered officials to make sure the greater flow would not

cause problems elsewhere.

Higher than normal tides pushing into the Chao Phraya river from the Gulf of Thailand in recent days have complicated efforts to drain floodwaters flowing from the country's central heartland, where vast areas

have been submerged for up to two months. The runoff has put extreme pressure on pumps, sandbags and dikes protecting Bangkok, though they have largely held. "If there is no more additional water, the current runoff might not cause heavy

flooding in Bangkok," Yingluck said, though she noted that a massive amount of water still needs to pass through the capital's complex network of rivers, canals and tunnels as it makes its way to the sea.

While that was welcome

news to people in Bangkok's dry downtown core who had braced for possible flooding all weekend, it was little relief for those in 15 of Bangkok's 50 districts that have already flooded. People in six of those districts have been told to evacuate.

"The water that came in our neighborhood was massive and had immense power," said Yib-porn Ratanawit, 29, who lives in Thonburi, across the Chao Phraya from the capital's central area. "As we were stepping out of our gate to evacuate, one of our walls totally collapsed to the neighbor's side and the water rushed into their house. It was like a nightmare."

"I think the Thonburi side will all be gone eventually because the water has not stopped rising," she said.

As the government has focused in recent days on protecting the capital, there have been growing complaints that provinces north of the capital, some of which have been underwater for weeks or months, have been forgotten.

Yingluck sought to address those concerns Monday with a post on her Facebook page.

"The government is concerned about every individual who has experienced flooding, as well as those facing a lengthy period of floods," she said. "The government has emphasized with the provincial governors to exhaustively take care of the people."

Filipino offensive kills 5 militants; leaders flee

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A Philippine military air and ground assault killed three Abu Sayyaf commanders and two other militants but failed to snare a key Southeast Asian terror suspect in the south, officials said Monday.

The five militants killed during the weekend assault on an Abu Sayyaf jungle encampment near mountainous Indanan town in southern Sulu province were Filipinos, military spokesman Col. Arnulfo Marcelo Burgos said.

But the primary targets—Malaysian Zulkifli bin Hir, also known as Marwan, and Abu

Sayyaf commander Umbra Jum-dail—escaped along with two other Asian militants and dozens of Abu Sayyaf fighters, Burgos and marine officials said.

"These offensives keep them on the run, disorganized and unable to plot attacks," Burgos said.

The troops were also after Singaporean militant Muhammad Ali Bin Al-Rahman, also known as Muawiya, and an Indonesian who has been identified only as Qayyim. Both are believed to be affiliated with the Southeast Asian militant network Jemaah Islamiyah, officials said.

Jum-dail has given refuge to the foreign militants in his jun-

gle encampment for years, said Sulu police operations chief Amil Baanan.

After the assault, marines found three rifles, a pistol and camouflage uniforms, which were abandoned by the militants.

Washington has offered a \$5 million reward for the capture or killing of Marwan, a U.S.-trained Malaysian engineer long hunted by U.S. and Philippine authorities for his alleged role in past terror attacks.

U.S.-backed Philippine offensives have considerably weakened the Abu Sayyaf, one of at least four Muslim insurgent groups operating in the south.

Attack near UN office kills 5 in Afghanistan

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan (AP)—Insurgents driving a suicide truck bomb and attacking on foot killed five people, including three United Nations employees, near the offices of the U.N.'s refugee agency in the southern city of Kandahar on Monday, officials said. Afghan forces and the militants exchanged fire for nearly seven hours before the militants were killed.

One insurgent slammed an explosives-rigged pickup truck

into a checkpoint near the UN-HCR's offices at about 6:10 a.m., and immediately afterward, three insurgents rushed into area, which houses several international aid organizations, the Interior Ministry said.

The insurgents seized control of at least one building, and the ensuing gunbattle with Afghan and NATO forces lasted until 1 p.m., the ministry said.

The UNCHR said three of its staff were killed and two wounded in the combined as-

sault and bombing. It did not say whether they were Afghans or foreigners.

"This is a tragedy for UN-HCR and for the families of the dead and wounded," U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees Antonio Guterres said in a statement. "It also underscores the great risks for humanitarian workers in Afghanistan."

In New York, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon gave a slightly different version of the events.

ASIA BRIEFS

Malaysians living overseas sue for right to vote

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP)—A group of Malaysians have sued election authorities in what they described Monday as an attempt to extend voting rights to nearly 1 million citizens living abroad. In a separate case linked to public demands for wider political transparency, a court ruled that Malaysian university students should be allowed greater freedom to participate in politics. Rights activists have long criticized restrictions that prevent most Malaysians abroad from casting ballots. Exceptions include government workers, military personnel and full-time students. Another law has prevented university students from publicly voicing support for political parties since the 1970s.

China's unmanned spacecraft Shenzhou 8 blasts off

BEIJING (AP)—China's unmanned spacecraft Shenzhou 8 blasted off Tuesday morning, in the latest step in what will

be a decade-long effort by the country to place a manned permanent space station in orbit. The spacecraft took off from a base in the far western city of Jiuquan, the official Xinhua News Agency said. Minutes later, Xinhua cited Chang Wanquan, who leads China's space program, as announcing the launch a success. China launched its own space station program after being rebuffed in its attempts to join the 16-nation International Space Station, largely on objections from the United States. The U.S. is wary of the Chinese program's military links and the sharing of technology with its chief economic and political competitor.

US missiles kill 4 in Pakistan

PESHAWAR, Pakistan (AP)—U.S. drone-fired missiles killed four suspected militants Monday close to the Afghan border, Pakistani officials said. The missiles hit a vehicle close to the town of Mir Ali in the North Waziristan tribal region, which is effectively under the control of al-Qaida and Taliban militants, many

of whom fight U.S. forces in Afghanistan. The identities of those killed were not known, said the officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to brief reporters.

Kyrgyz vote draws critical monitor report, protest

BISHKEK, Kyrgyzstan (AP)—Kyrgyzstan presidential election winner Almazbek Atambayev's moment of glory was soured Monday by a stinging assessment from international vote monitors and news of protests in the turbulent south of the country. Preliminary returns from nearly all precincts have shown Atambayev winning over 60 percent of votes in Sunday's election, easily pushing aside his closest rivals. International observers said that the Kyrgyz elections were held in a peaceful manner, offered a wide choice of candidates and followed an open and free campaign. At the same time, monitors from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe criticized irregularities on election day.

China's unmanned spacecraft Shenzhou 8 blasts off

BEIJING (AP)—China's unmanned spacecraft Shenzhou 8 blasted off Tuesday morning, in the latest step in what will

World

United Nations marks 7 billionth baby

LAGOS, Nigeria (AP)—One South African mother, just 19, named her newborn “Enough” and shrugged off a nurse who questioned whether she was old enough to know how many children she wanted.

In Nigeria, newborn twins have to share a bassinet in a crowded public hospital that doesn’t have enough electricity.

“Where there is life, there is hope,” their mother said. But as the world’s population surpasses 7 billion, fears were stirred anew about how the planet will cope with the needs of so many humans.

The United Nations marked the milestone Monday, even though it is impossible to pinpoint the arrival of the globe’s 7 billionth occupant because millions of people are born and die each day.

At Lagos Island Maternity Hospital, the strain of caring for a burgeoning population was evident. The droning roar of a generator could be heard throughout one hot ward, where it powered ceiling fans and incubators. While Nigeria is oil-rich, it does not produce nearly enough power for its more than 160 million people.

Nigeria’s megacity of Lagos is ex-



Nurses hold newborn babies in Sidon, Lebanon, Monday, Oct. 31, 2011. As of Oct. 31, according to the U.N. Population Fund, there will be 7 billion people sharing Earth’s land and resources.

pected someday to surpass Cairo as the continent’s most populous.

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said the day was “not about one newborn or even one generation” but “about our entire human family.”

At a news conference in New York, he noted “a world of contradictions”—famine in the Horn of Africa, fighting in Syria and elsewhere and widespread protests against economic inequality.

“Seven billion population is a challenge,” he said, and “at the same time, an opportunity, depending upon how the international community prepares for that challenge.”

Demographers say it took until 1804 for the world to reach its first billion people and a century more until it hit 2 billion in 1927. Soon the numbers began to cascade: 3 billion in 1959, 4 billion in 1974, 5 billion in 1987, 6 billion in 1998.

The U.N. estimates the world population will reach 8 billion by 2025 and 10 billion by 2083. But the numbers could vary widely, depending on life expectancy, access to birth control, infant mortality rates and other factors.

WORLD BRIEFS

Greece gambles on referendum for new debt deal

ATHENS, Greece (AP)—Taking a huge political gamble, Greece’s prime minister announced Monday that his debt-strapped country will hold a referendum on the new European debt deal reached last week—the first such vote in 37 years. Prime Minister George Papandreou appeared to take many lawmakers by surprise by saying that a hard-bargained agreement that took months for Europe’s leaders to hammer out will be put to a public ballot. He gave no date or other details on the proposed referendum.

Brazil’s Silva beginning chemotherapy for tumor

SAO PAULO (AP)—The tumor found in the throat of Brazil’s popular former President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva was detected in an intermediate stage and shows the “classic aggressiveness” of larynx cancer, doctors said Monday. Silva entered Sao Paulo’s Sirio-Libanes Hospital to undergo his first chemotherapy treatment after being diagnosed over the weekend. The team of physicians treating him said he was upbeat and they were confident he would make a full recovery.

Dean of St. Paul’s Cathedral stepping down

LONDON (AP)—The Dean of St. Paul’s Cathedral quit Monday, the second high-profile clergy member to step down over anti-capitalist protests that have spilled across the historic church’s grounds. The resignation of Graeme Knowles leaves the cathedral without a leader and will delay its planned legal action to evict the protest camp. Knowles said his position had become “untenable” as criticism of the cathedral mounted in the press and in public opinion. Knowles had urged protesters to leave the cathedral area to allow it to reopen its doors.

NATO ends victorious 7-month Libya campaign

TRIPOLI, Libya (AP)—NATO’s triumphant, 7-month air campaign against Libya ended Monday, setting the country on the path to a democratic transition less than two weeks after the capture and killing of ousted dictator Moammar Gadhafi.

The alliance turned down a Libyan request to extend the protective umbrella for a few more weeks, apparently eager to exit on a high note and wrap up a costly mission at a time of financial austerity.

The relatively quick victory in Libya represented a major boost for a Cold War alliance bogged down in a 10-year war in Afghanistan, a 12-year mission in Kosovo and the seemingly never-ending anti-piracy operation off the Somali coastline.

The operation’s critics—including Russia, China and the African Union—have argued that NATO misused the limited U.N. resolution imposing a no-fly zone and authorizing the protection of civilians as a pretext

to promote regime change.

But with alliance airstrikes helping open the way on the battlefield following a lengthy stalemate, revolutionary forces eventually captured Tripoli in late August and brought an end to the war with the death of Gadhafi on Oct. 20.

“Together, we succeeded. Libya is finally free,” NATO chief Anders Fogh Rasmussen told a joint news conference in Tripoli with Mustafa Abdul-Jalil, Libya’s interim leader.

Addressing the Libyans, he said:

“You acted to change your history and your destiny. We acted to protect you.”

In the past seven months, NATO warplanes flew 26,000 sorties, including more than 9,600 strike missions, destroying more than 1,000 tanks, vehicles, and guns.

U.S. planes flew a quarter of those missions, mostly in support roles such as air refueling and surveillance of the battlefields, while the European allies and four partner nations conducted the vast majority of ground attacks.

Russia: Court victory for girls switched at birth

MOSCOW (AP)—It was more money than either family has ever seen—but it’s still not clear if it can make the pain go away.

A Russian court on Monday awarded two Russian families \$100,000 each in compensation from a maternity home that accidentally switched their daughters, now 12, at birth. The story has captivated Russia ever since the families learned about the mistake several months ago.

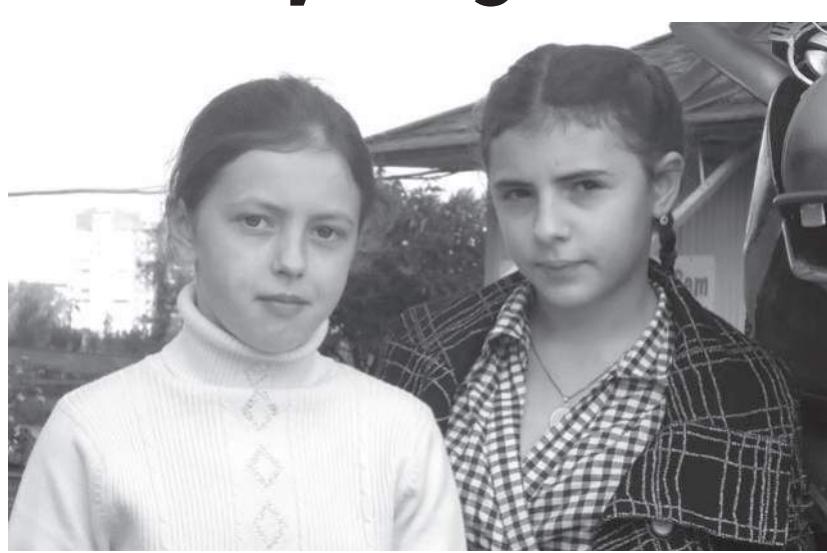
Confirmation of the switch—long suspected by one of the fathers—has been bittersweet.

“The money just can’t ease the pain,” said Yuliya Belyaeva, the biological mother of one daughter, Anna, who raised another couple’s child, Irina. “All the money in the world isn’t worth a child’s look at their mother.”

Belyaeva gave birth at the same ward about the same time as Naimat Iskanderov’s wife in Kopeisk, an industrial town of 140,000 in Russia’s Ural Mountains.

Years later during their divorce proceedings, Belyaeva’s husband refused to support Irina—who has dark hair, dark eyes and olive skin—because she didn’t look like him or his blonde wife. A DNA test then revealed that neither of them were Irina’s biological parents.

Belyaeva then demanded an official investigation, which tracked down Irina’s biological father, Iskanderov—who had been raising her own child



In this Sept. 11, 2011 photo, 12 year old Anna, left, and Irina, right, pose in the city of Kopeisk in Russia’s Ural Mountains.

Anna in a neighboring town.

Fair-skinned Anna strongly resembles her biological mother, while Irina looks like her father Iskanderov, an ethnic Tajik born in the Central Asian and mostly Muslim nation of Tajikistan.

It is not known whether the switch played any role in the two couple’s divorces. Iskanderov parted with his wife when Anna was five but later married again, according to the Komsomolskaya Pravda newspaper. Belyaeva also married again and gave birth to two more children.

Belyaeva said the shocking news

still makes her shiver.

“It is very unpleasant to relive those memories,” she told The Associated Press in a brief telephone interview. “We still can’t fully comprehend what happened.”

But on Monday, Russia’s NTV television showed Belyaeva laughing with joy after the judge delivered the verdict in a Kopeisk courtroom. Iskanderov, however, remained stone-faced.

The video showed Belyaeva caressing the fair Anna, while Irina, whom she raised, sat stern-faced with her eyes downcast.

“She feels jealous,” Belyaeva explained in televised remarks.

Despite winning the verdict, Belyaeva said the swap will leave lasting emotional scars.

“There are moments when I think it would have been better if I hadn’t known anything about that,” she said.

Belyaeva’s former husband and Iskanderov’s former wife were not in the courtroom Monday and made no statements after the court ruling. That may change later, for the compensation award is huge by Russian standards and could easily spark jealousy in a region where many jobs have evaporated.

The two 12-year-olds don’t want to leave the parents who raised them, according to Russia television reports, so the families are thinking of using the compensation money to live near each other or even share a home.

“I would like us to share a house so that we don’t worry about her daughter coming to me and the other way round,” Iskanderov told Russia media.

Belyaeva said she would prefer separate houses nearby, so that “we see our children growing up and take part in their education.”

Belyaeva also identified the nurse who she claimed mixed up the babies, but the nurse denied any responsibility.

“I know it was not me who did it,” nurse Nelly Prokopyeva told Russian television.

Focus

Spying on spies: Chapman shops, contacts ‘handler’

WA SH - INGTON (AP)—Unaware the FBI has her under surveillance, Russian spy Anna Chapman buys leggings and tries on hats at Macy’s. A few months later, cameras watch her in a New York coffee shop where she meets with someone she thinks is her Russian handler. It’s really an undercover FBI agent.

Tapes, documents and photos released Monday describe and sometimes show how Chapman, now a celebrity back in Russia, and other members of a ring of sleeper spies passed instructions, information and cash. The ring was shut down in June 2010 after a decade-long counterintelligence probe that led to the biggest spy swap since the Cold War.

The FBI released the material to The Associated Press in response to a Freedom of Information Act request. The investigation was code-named “Ghost Stories,” the release of documents on Halloween a coincidence.

While the deep-cover agents didn’t steal any secrets, an FBI counterintelligence official told the AP they were making progress.

They “were getting very close to penetrating U.S. policymaking circles” through a friend of a U.S. Cabinet official, said C. Frank Figliuzzi, FBI assistant director for counterintelligence.

He did not name names, but Russian spy Cynthia Murphy of Montclair, N.J., provided financial planning for venture capitalist Alan Patricof, a political fundraiser with close ties to Bill and Hillary Rodham Clinton.

The linchpin in cracking the case, apparently, was Col. Alexander Potelev, a highly placed U.S. mole in Russian foreign intelligence, who betrayed the spy ring even as he ran it.

He abruptly fled Moscow just days before the FBI rolled up the operation. Potelev’s role emerged when a Russian military court convicted him in absentia for high treason and desertion.

The materials released Monday show Chapman and the other members of Moscow’s 11-member ring of sleeper spies—deep-cover agents assigned to blend into American society—shopping in New York City, sightseeing, hanging around coffee shops or apparently just out for a stroll. While she shops at one department store, a Russian diplomat waits outside.

The FBI says seemingly mundane pursuits often served

as cover for the exchange of encrypted messages or the transfer of cash, all with the long-range goal of penetrating the highest levels of U.S. policymaking.

What appears to be a family photo of one spy, Donald Heathfield of Cambridge, Mass., shows him graduating from Harvard’s John F. Kennedy School of Government in 2000. The school revoked the degree a month after the FBI rolled up the spy ring.

Other spies are seen in video and photos meeting in Columbus Circle, on Brooklyn street corners and at a pay phone in Queens.

Called “illegals” because they took civilian jobs instead of operating with diplomatic immunity inside Russian embassies and military missions, the spies settled into quiet lives in middle-class neighborhoods and set about trying to network their way into the worlds of finance, technology and government.

The operation’s codename, Ghost Stories, stems from a number of the spies using a technique known among counter-intelligence investigators as “dead doubles”—taking the identities of people who have died. Tracey Lee Ann Foley, Michael Zottoli, Donald Heathfield and Patricia Mills all used the technique, Figliuzzi said.

The U.S. traded the 10 “Ghost Stories” spies arrested by federal agents for four Russians imprisoned for spying for the West at a remote corner of a Vienna airport on July 9 in a scene reminiscent of the carefully choreographed exchange of spies at Berlin’s Glienicker Bridge during the Cold War.

While freed Soviet spies typically have kept a low profile after their return to Moscow, Chapman became a model, corporate spokeswoman and tele-



AP In this photo taken on Sunday, April 3, 2011, Anna Chapman, who was deported from the U.S. on charges of espionage, displays a creation by Russian designers Shiyani & Rudkovskaya during a Fashion Week in Moscow, Russia. A year and a half after the biggest spy swap since the Cold War, its Russian protagonists completely vanished in the 12-million city of Moscow, leaving no trace of their past, except for complicit socialite Anna Chapman.

Called “illegals” because they took civilian jobs instead of operating with diplomatic immunity inside Russian embassies and military missions, the spies settled into quiet lives in middle-class neighborhoods and set about trying to network their way into the worlds of finance, technology and government.

vision personality. Heathfield, whose real name is Andrey Bezrukov, lists himself as an adviser to the president of a major Russian oil company on his LinkedIn account.

Russian President Dmitry Medvedev awarded the 10 freed spies Russia’s highest honors at

a Kremlin ceremony.

The case was brought to a swift conclusion before it could complicate U.S. President Obama’s campaign to “reset” American relations with the Kremlin, strained by years of tensions over U.S. foreign policy and the 2008 Russian-Geor-

gian war. All 10 of the captured spies were charged with failing to register as foreign agents.

An 11th suspect, Christopher Metsos, who claimed to be a Canadian citizen and was accused of delivering money and equipment to the sleeper agents, vanished after a court in Cyprus

freed him on bail. The FBI released surveillance photos of Metsos on Monday.

Figliuzzi said Metsos traveled into the U.S. solely for the purpose of providing the other illegals with money. Security measures after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks meant he could no longer risk carrying large amounts of cash, prompting the Russians to send officials already in the U.S. to meet with the illegals and pay them.

That could have made them more vulnerable to discovery.

He said Chapman and another illegal, Mikhail Semenko, who worked in a D.C.-area travel agency, represented a “new breed” of illegals operating in the U.S. under their own names.

Chapman and Semenko “were very tech savvy, very intellectual and bright,” he said, adding that Semenko is fluent in five languages including Chinese.

Both of the new-breed operatives used state-of-the-art wireless computer communications, but the others fell back on techniques that have been used for centuries. With the two different approaches, “the Russians were experimenting,” said Figliuzzi.

The FBI official said that Chapman’s ring was the largest network of illegals ever seen in the U.S. By working on the case for so long, he said, the FBI penetrated the ring’s communications network to the point where FBI officials were playing the part of Russian handlers. “So in a sense we began to own their communications and we became the Russians,” Figliuzzi said.

But former Soviet intelligence officials now living in the West scratched their heads over what Russia hoped to gain from its ring.

“In my view this whole op-

Alexander Vassiliev, a former KGB officer and journalist who has written extensively about Soviet spying in America, said the illegals were supposed to act as talent spotters and scouts, identifying Americans in positions of power who might be recruited to spill secrets for financial reasons or through blackmail.

Spies with the protection of diplomatic credentials would handle the more delicate task of recruiting and handling the agents.

Moscow’s ultimate aim, Vassiliev said, was probably to cultivate a source who could provide day-by-day intelligence on what the president’s inner circle was thinking and planning in response to the latest international crisis. But he said there was no evidence the Kremlin made any progress toward that goal.

“How are you going to recruit someone like that, on what basis? That’s quite a successful person. Why should he spy for the Russians? I can’t see any reason, said Vassiliev, who now lives in London.

The 10 Russian illegals included:

■ Chapman, the daughter of a Russian diplomat, who worked as a real estate agent in New York City. After she was caught, photos of the redhead’s social life and travels were splashed all over the tabloids.

■ Vicky Pelaez and Juan Lazaro, of Yonkers, N.Y. Lazaro briefly taught a class on Latin American and Caribbean politics at Baruch College. She wrote pieces highly critical of U.S. policy in Latin America as a columnist for one of the United States’ best-known Spanish-language newspapers, El Diario La Prensa.

■ Michael Zottoli and Patricia Mills of Arlington, Va. He had worked at a telecommunications firm. The couple raised a young son and toddler in their high-rise apartment.

■ Richard and Cynthia Murphy of Montclair, N.J. He mostly stayed home with their two pre-teen children while she worked for a lower Manhattan-based accounting firm that offered tax advice.

■ Heathfield and Tracey Lee Ann Foley of Cambridge, Mass. He worked in sales for an international management consulting firm and peddled strategic planning software to U.S. corporations. She was a real estate agent.

■ Semenko of Arlington, Va., who spoke Russian, English, Spanish, Chinese and Portuguese. He worked at the Travel All Russia agency, where co-workers described him as “clumsy” and “quirky.”

Campus Life

MTEC/My Wave tourism summit rallies youth



Marianas Visitors Authority board chair Marian Aldan-Pierce shares details of the NMI tourism industry.



Koblerville Elementary Glee Club and MY WAVE Club members take a commemorative photo with tourism summit organizers and special guests.



Approximately 250 students joined the MTEC/MY WAVE Tourism Summit on Oct. 27 at Fiesta Resort & Spa in Saipan. The tourism summit aimed to educate students on the importance of the Northern Mariana Islands tourism industry and provide working sessions for schools to develop plans to support tourism this school year. The summit was sponsored by the Marianas Tourism Education Council, Marianas Youth Welcome All Visitors Enthusiastically school clubs, Marianas Visitors Authority, and the Public School System. (MVA)



Kagman High School senior Vanity Borja, second from right, won a roundtrip to the Guam Youth Summit in January 2012. Others in photo are, from left, are Dr. Fred Schumann, Heidi Ballendorf, and Vicki Benavente.



Tourism industry leaders join students in learning the MY WAVE cheer. From left, Marianas Visitors Authority Managing Director Perry Tenorio, MVA Board Chairwoman Marian Aldan-Pierce (hidden), Guam Tourism Education Council Chairman, Heidi Ballendorf, MVA Board Vice-Chairman Yoichi Matsumura, and Rep. Edmund Villagomez. Not pictured is Dr. Fred Schumann, professor of the University of Guam School of Business and Public Administration.



Life & Style

New Amy Winehouse album to be released in December

LONDON (AP)—A new album of recordings by the late soul singer Amy Winehouse will be released in December, Island Records said Monday.

It said "Lioness: Hidden Treasures" will contain 12 songs—previously unreleased tracks, alternative versions of existing hits and brand new songs—recorded by the beehive-wearing singer who died at her London home on July 23.

The label said Winehouse's

longtime musical partners Mark Ronson and Salaam Remi had spent time since her death listening to recordings of the singer, who many said never sang or played a song the same way twice.

Island Records said the duo quickly realized that they had "a collection of songs that deserved to be heard, a collection of songs that were a fitting testament to Amy the artist and, as importantly, Amy their friend."

The album—Winehouse's

third after "Frank" and "Back to Black"—will be released on Dec. 5. Ronson and Remi compiled the tracks in collaboration with Winehouse's family, management and the label.

Winehouse's final studio recording—a cover of "Body & Soul" sung with Tony Bennett—will be included in the album.

The singer's father, Mitch Winehouse, said he had never before heard another one of the tracks, "Halftime," and de-

scribed the song as "just incredibly beautiful."

"If the family had felt that this album wasn't up to the standard of 'Frank' and 'Back To Black' we would never have agreed to release it and we believe it will stand as a fitting tribute to Amy's musical legacy," he said in the Island Records statement.

A donation of 1 pound (\$1.60) from the sale of each album in the U.K. will go to a foundation to assist disadvantaged children and

young adults set up in the artist's name following her death.

Last week a British coroner ruled the Grammy-winning singer died from accidental alcohol poisoning when she resumed drinking after weeks of abstinence.

The 27-year-old Winehouse had fought a very public battle with drug and alcohol abuse for years, and there had been much speculation that she died from a drug overdose.



In this Feb. 20, 2008, file photo, Amy Winehouse performs at the Brit Awards 2008 in London.

Kim Kardashian files for divorce after 10 weeks

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Just 10 weeks after their lavish, made-for-TV wedding and less than a month after the wedding special aired, reality starlet Kim Kardashian is canceling her marriage to NBA player Kris Humphries.

The "Keeping Up With the Kardashians" star filed for divorce Monday, citing irreconcilable differences. "I hope everyone understands this was not an easy decision," she said in a statement. "I had hoped this marriage was forever but sometimes things don't work out as planned."

Humphries told TMZ he was "devastated" to learn his bride had filed for divorce and is "willing to do whatever it takes to make it work."

The filing in Los Angeles County Superior Court provided few details, other than to state the couple have a prenuptial agreement that will dictate how they divide up their assets. Kardashian is asking that both sides pay their own attorneys' costs and that a judge terminate Humphries' rights to spousal support.

Kardashian, 31, and Humphries, 26, were wed Aug. 20 in a star-studded, black-tie ceremony at an exclusive canyon estate in the seaside enclave of Montecito, Calif., near Santa Barbara. The couple's wedding registry at a Beverly Hills jeweler totaled \$172,000 and included such items as a \$1,650 coffee pot and two \$1,250 sterling silver vegetable spoons.



In this Aug. 31, 2011 file photo, newlyweds Kim Kardashian, right, and Kris Humphries attend a party thrown in their honor in New York.

It was the first marriage for Humphries, who last played for the NBA's New Jersey Nets, and the second for Kardashian, who was married to music producer Damon Thomas from 2000 to 2004.

Kardashian's sisters and TV co-stars Kourtney Kardashian,

32, and Khloe Kardashian, 27, served as co-maids of honor.

Kim Kardashian and Humphries began dating late last year and announced their engagement in May. He proposed on bended knee with a 20.5-carat ring by spelling out "Will you marry me?" in rose petals.

O'Reilly's previous releases include "Pinheads and Patriots," "Culture Warrior" and the mem-

Crime authors competing for UK morgue honor

LONDON (AP)—It will be the world's most literary mortuary.

Ten leading crime writers are competing for the honor of having a morgue named after them.

Scotland's University of Dundee said Monday it will name its new morgue and research facility after whichever writer gets the most votes in an online poll and fundraising effort.

Kathy Reichs, Lee Child, Tess Gerritsen, Harlan Coben, Mark Billingham and Val McDermid are among the authors taking part in the "Million for a Morgue" campaign. Each person who votes donates 1

pound (\$1.60) to a money-raising campaign. The university hopes to raise 1 million pounds (\$1.6 million) for the new facilities at its Center for Anatomy and Human Identification.

The university's forensic scientists help train emergency workers in identifying disaster victims and have developed groundbreaking techniques that have identified pedophiles from images of their hands.

The university says the morgue will be the first in Britain to use the Thiel embalming method, which advocates say better preserves cadavers so they can be studied by forensic scientists.

The other authors involved are Jeffrey Deaver, Jeff Lindsay, Stuart MacBride and Peter James.

All the writers said they were grateful to forensic scientists for help creating grisly scenes in their books.

Reichs, who like her fictional heroine Temperance Brennan is a forensic anthropologist, said she was "proud to be a participant in this effort."

Lindsay, who created the killer-with-a-conscience at the center of TV series "Dexter," said the campaign was an "opportunity to make a small down payment on the huge debt I owe the forensics community."

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Maria Dela Cruz Aldan Omar

Lovingly known as "Mary"

Born to life on May 13, 1948 and was called to her creator on October 26, 2011.



In Paradise, she will now join her:

Parents: Antonio Tenorio Aldan and Carina Dela Cruz Aldan

Brother: Vicente Dela Cruz Aldan

Sister: Andresina Dela Cruz Aldan

Son In-Law: Santiago M. Magofna

Mother/Father In-Law: Crisogino A. Omar and Rita P. Omar

Brother/Sister In-Law: Jose Tudela, Martha Ayuyu, Francisco Kaipat, Maria E. Omar, Daniel Lieto

She will be forever missed but fond memories and her peaceful spirit will be lovingly treasured by her husband, children, grand and great grandchildren:

Step-Mother: Maria A. Aldan

Husband: Ignacio Pialur Omar

Children: Anthony Aldan; Teresita Aldan (Esterlita/James/Leolani/Cassandra/Ricardo); Edwin &

Yoshie Castro (Edwin Jr./Doris/Kenta/Ryota); Carina C./Dave Angui (Adrian/Amanda/Nathan);

Johnnie & Keiko Castro (Jason/Shota/Cindy); Patricia A./Diego Cabrera (Jouvani/Zaenny/Justin);

George Omar; Rita O./Nelson Ramon (Coreen/Cody/Nelson/Luis/Chloe/Shaniah/Dean)

Brothers, Sisters and Spouses: Maria M. Aldan; Francisco Dlc. & Kaiulani Aldan; Annie Dlc. Aldan;

Trini A. & Jess Lizama; Jacinta A. & Ignacio Borja; Lucy Dlc. Aldan; Jess Dlc. & Rowena V. Aldan;

Ramona A. & Ignacio Songao; Jose Dlc. & Angelina Aldan; Ramon Dlc. & Marsha Aldan; Sam A.

& Karen Aldan; Antonio A. & Tina Aldan; Gina A. Aldan, Piding A. Tudela; Angie A. & Manuel

Borja; Acinta A. Kaipat; Willy & Bertha Ayuyu; Martin & Edith Ayuyu; Scott Ayuyu.

Brothers and Sisters In-Law:

Antonio Omar; Luciana O. Lieto; Joquin & Gregoria Omar; Agustin & Priscilla Omar; Victoria O. & Diego Tudela; Lucy Omar; Ana Omar; Lucio Litulimar

Mary also leaves behind and will be greatly missed by numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces & nephews.

Daily masses are being offered at 6:00pm followed by the Holy Rosary at 7:00pm at the St. Jude Church in Kobilerville. On Friday, November 4, 2011 her remains will be escorted from CHC Morgue at 7:30am to St. Jude Church for viewing and last respects. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00am followed immediately by interment services at the Tanapag Cemetery.

Please join us in prayers.

Si Yuus Maase

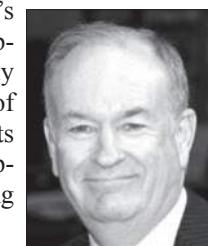
The Family

Fox News host Bill O'Reilly writing 2 more books

NEW YORK (AP)—Fox News host Bill O'Reilly has signed on to write two more books, including a presidential history.

The conservative commentator and best-selling author already has memoir "Bolder and Fresher" due from Henry Holt and Co. His next two books will include a presidential story, the president to be revealed later, the publisher announced Monday. The third book is yet to be determined.

O'Reilly's current hit is his first work of history, "Killing Lincoln," which topped



the New York Times nonfiction hardcover list this fall and has sold nearly 1 million copies, Holt said. Stephen Rubin, Holt's president and publisher, said O'Reilly planned a series of books on presidents "very much in keeping" with "Killing Lincoln."

"They will be history told in a narrative, novelistic fashion," Rubin said. O'Reilly's previous releases include "Pinheads and Patriots," "Culture Warrior" and the mem-

oir "A Bold Fresh Piece of Humanity." The "O'Reilly Factor" star's latest deal continues his longtime publishing partnership with Rubin, who first worked with O'Reilly at Broadway Books, then brought him over when he joined Holt in 2009.

"The reason my books have been successful is because of the amazing support provided by the 'Factor' audience, and Steve Rubin," O'Reilly said in a statement. "It's a dream partnership."

Jessica Simpson confirms pregnancy over Twitter

NEW YORK (AP)—Jessica Simpson has confirmed what photos have indicated—she's having a baby.

The 31-year-old entertainer Tweeted a photo of herself Monday dressed as a mummy for Halloween, holding her baby bump with the words, "It's true. I am going to be a mummy."

It will be the first child for Simpson and her fiance Eric Johnson. The two announced their engagement last year.

Her pregnancy has been rumored for weeks, and recently, photos of Simpson—with a bulging bump—have appeared.

Pregnancy won't slow Simpson down. She's signed up to be a mentor on the upcoming NBC reality show "Fashion Star" alongside Nicole Richie.



In this image released courtesy JessicaSimpson.com, actress and singer Jessica Simpson displays her baby bump as she is dressed as a "mummy," in Los Angeles, in a photo released on her Twitter page on Monday, Oct. 31, 2011. Simpson confirmed Monday that she is pregnant with her first child.

Vince Neil to plead guilty to disorderly conduct

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Motley Crue singer Vince Neil will plead guilty to a misdemeanor or disorderly conduct charge, pay a \$1,000 fine and avoid trial on allegations that he poked his ex-girlfriend in a confrontation last March at a Las Vegas resort lounge, his lawyer said Monday.

A more serious misdemeanor charge of battery constituting domestic violence will be dropped against Neil when the 50-year-old rocker enters his plea next Monday in Las Vegas Justice Court, defense attorney David Chesnoff. He said the allegation of physical contact would be dismissed.

"Mr. Neil is sorry he raised his voice," Chesnoff said.

The Las Vegas Review-Journal first reported Monday that Clark County District Attorney David Roger also confirmed the agreement.

Roger did not immediately respond to messages from The Associated Press.

Neil, who lives in Las Vegas, could have faced up to six months in jail and a \$1,000 fine if convicted on each charge.

He was accused of poking the chest of Las Vegas entertainment reporter Alicia Jacobs in a casino comedy club March 24, and of cursing and pointing at Jacobs and two friends sitting with her.

Jacobs told the AP she was glad Neil was taking responsibility for his actions.

"I'm glad the story is over and the book is closed," she said.

Pete Townshend brands iTunes a 'digital vampire'

LONDON (AP)—The Who's Pete Townshend on Monday branded Apple Inc.'s iTunes a "digital vampire" that profits from music without supporting the artists who create it.

Townshend said that faced with the Internet's demolition of established copyright protections, iTunes should offer some of the services to artists that record labels and music publishers used to provide. These include employing talents scouts, giving space to allow bands to stream their music and paying

smaller artists directly rather than through a third party aggregator.

The guitarist was delivering the first John Peel Lecture, named in honor of the influential British radio broadcaster who died in 2004.

Townshend asked if there was any reason iTunes "can't provide some aspect of these services to the artists whose work it bleeds like a digital vampire" to make money.

iTunes declined to respond to Townshend's comments.

Madoff son: I didn't suspect dad of Ponzi scheme

NEW YORK (AP)—Andrew Madoff says he never suspected his financier father of running a Ponzi scheme because he grew up hearing what a legend he was.

He says people had an incredible vision of Bernard Madoff as a "spectacularly skillful trader."



Andrew Madoff made his comments Monday during an appearance with his mother, Ruth, and his fiancee, Catherine Hooper, on NBC's "Today" show.

Their appearance coincided with the publication of "Truth and Consequences," by Laurie Sandell. It contains

extensive interviews with family members.

Andrew Madoff says the book provided an opportunity to say in their own words what had really happened and "to speak to the thousands of victims I don't know."

Ruth Madoff says she doesn't miss her imprisoned husband. She says: "The villain of all this is behind bars."

ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

Shelton, Lambert's Pistol Annies to play at ACAs

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—Blake Shelton and Miranda Lambert are adding their star power to The American Country Awards. The country music couple are among the first performers announced for the second annual fan-voted awards show. Lambert will perform with her group Pistol Annies on the Dec. 5 live broadcast on Fox from Las Vegas. Hot new acts Thompson Square, The Band Perry and Eli Young Band also will perform, along with co-hosts Trace Adkins and Kristin Chenoweth. "American Idol" winner Scotty McCreery and runner-up Lauren Alaina also are among the stars scheduled to appear on the show. Jason Aldean and Zac Brown Band are the lead nominees with eight apiece. Voting is open on the show's website until Nov. 11, except artist of the year, which

closes Dec. 2.

Gill, Paisley, Urban to salute Campbell on CMAs

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—Vince Gill, Brad Paisley and Keith Urban will team up to pay tribute to Glen Campbell at next month's Country Music Association Awards. Gill, Paisley and Urban—arguably country music's top three guitarists today and all three CMA entertainers of the year winners—will salute the heralded guitarist, Country Music Hall of Fame member and 1968 entertainer of the year. The 75-year-old "Rhinestone Cowboy" singer has Alzheimer's disease. He released his last studio album, "Ghost on the Canvas," in August and is on a goodbye tour. The salute joins an already star-packed night. Lionel Richie will debut duets from his forthcoming country album "Tuskegee" with Rascal Flatts, Darius Rucker and Little Big Town. And all five enter-

tainer of the year nominees will perform as well.

America Ferrera to headline 'Chicago' in London

LONDON (AP)—"Ugly Betty" star America Ferrera says she's "very excited" about her upcoming West End debut as the showgirl Roxie in "Chicago." The American actress embarks on an eight-week stint at the Garrick Theatre beginning Nov. 7. At a press conference Monday, the former TV star says performing on the London stage is something she's "dreamed" about since childhood. And the glamorous Roxie is a far cry from TV's Betty, which required Ferrera to wear dental braces and fake thick eyebrows. The 27-year-old Ferrera joins a long list of U.S. celebrities—including model Christie Brinkley—who have played Roxie in London. Starring opposite Ferrera will be actress and dancer Amra-

Faye Wright, who plays fellow femme fatale Velma Kelly.

Jackson doc: no decision on whether he'll testify

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The doctor charged in Michael Jackson's death says he hasn't made a final decision about whether or not he will testify in his own defense. Dr. Conrad Murray told Superior Court Judge Michael Pastor that he has thought about whether to testify and has consulted with his attorney. But Murray says he hasn't made a final decision and will advise the judge in the morning of his decision. Pastor asked Murray if he had made a decision after jurors had left the courtroom on Monday. The judge told Murray he has a constitutional right to testify and the right to testify. He has previously given Murray the same advisement of his rights. Pastor says attorneys told him that the evidence phase of the case may conclude on Tuesday.

Life of toil and thrift is teen's tough row to hoe

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 15-year-old girl who has never been in trouble, but my mom treats me like I'm a criminal. She makes me go to church every Sunday. She makes me go to Catholic school, and I have to wear an ugly uniform. She won't help with my homework. She says, "I already did 10th grade." I can't wear halter tops, short shorts, a bikini or much makeup. If I tell her it's the style, she says, "Modesty is always in style."

When I go out with my friends, she wants to know where I'm going, who I'll be with, what we'll be doing, when we'll be back and their phone numbers. If I have a date with a new boy, she makes him come into the house and tell her what school he goes to. Then she makes him show her his driver's license and car registration.

I can't keep my computer in my room. When I'm using it in the den, she looks over my shoulder and won't let me go to chat rooms. I have to set the table even if we don't have company and sit down and have dinner with her EVERY night.

If I can't afford something, she tells me to save up or budget better. She won't let me drive until I can pay for my own insurance. It's not like my mom's poor. We go to Hawaii and Lake Tahoe, and we've been to Europe and on cruises. But she won't even pay for cable TV. She says it's an idiot box and I should read a book instead.

She also makes me do my own laundry and keep my room and bathroom clean. She makes me do unfair chores like clean the guest bathroom even though I never ever use it. She wants to teach me to sew and cook, but I have no interest in those things.

She makes me visit Dad every week, and if I complain about anything, she says (very calmly and quietly, which I hate more than if she'd yell), "You can always choose to live with your dad."

She told me as long as I live under her roof, I have to abide by her rules even if I'm over 18. And I have to go to college, and if I don't, I'll have to get a job and support myself.

I could go on and on. Have you ever heard of a mother so unreasonable? I'm afraid to run away, but I don't know how much more of this I can take.

EMOTIONALLY ABUSED IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR EMOTIONALLY ABUSED: Wow! Your letter should be posted on every refrigerator in the country. Rarely do I hear about a parent who tries as hard as your mother does to do a diligent job. One day you will look back and thank her.

PS. And if by chance this letter was written by your mother—congratulations for a job well-done. I would like to nominate you for Mother of the Year.

DEAR ABBY: I would like to know who gives singers the right to change the melody of "The Star-Spangled Banner" and "America the Beautiful"? Some of them who are featured on national TV don't even get the lyrics right. Many of us would love to hear our national anthem without the additional flourishes. Isn't anything sacred anymore? These so-called singers can add their individual squealing to their own songs, but I wish they would leave Francis Scott Key's version in its original format. Am I alone on this issue?

NOT TONE-DEAF IN WASHINGTON STATE

DEAR NOT TONE-DEAF: You're far from alone in feeling as you do. Our national anthem is notoriously difficult to sing, and the lyrics difficult to remember. However, performers are, to a greater or lesser extent, artists. And some artists can't resist the temptation to add their personal interpretation to the classic, which has proved embarrassing for the singer and the listeners. It proves the truth of the old saying, "Sometimes less is more."

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write *Dear Abby* at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds only) to: *Dear Abby—Wedding Booklet*, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)



Dear Abby

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



By Bill Waterson



Garfield®



By Jim Davis



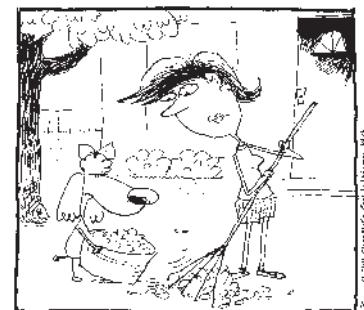
Adam@home



By Bryan Basset



The Duplex



By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

| ACROSS | 38 | Pelican's pride | DOWN | 25 | Recipe meas. |
|-------------------------|----|---------------------------|------|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1 — and crafts | 39 | Indivisible | 1 | Actress | Jessica |
| 5 Life story, for short | 41 | Mimic | 2 | Actual | Alias (Abbr.) |
| 8 Rim | 43 | Ivanhoe's | 3 | Lofty | 27 Electric power unit |
| 12 Jump | 46 | Bra seller's | 4 | Repair, as film | 5 Scrooge's cry |
| 13 Toss in | 47 | man-nequin | 5 | Complain repeatedly | 29 Complain |
| 14 Ca-boose's position | 50 | "Sad to say, ..." | 6 | Altar affirmative | repeat-edly |
| 15 Excited commotion | 51 | Lunchbox item, often | 7 | Smell | 31 Meadow |
| 17 Muham-mad and Laila | 54 | Catcher's aid | 8 | Obliterate | 32 Request |
| 18 TV oldie, "Kate & —" | 55 | Snoop | 9 | First | 34 Acute |
| 19 Used-car deal, e.g. | 56 | Run-down residential area | 10 | Author Sheehy | 38 Shop |
| 21 Small barrel | 57 | Cookware | 11 | Gaelic | aim-lessly |
| 24 Kitten's call | 58 | Moment | 12 | Smell | 40 Birds' homes |
| 25 Snatch | 59 | Desire Under | 13 | Verily | 42 Schedule abbr. |
| 28 Places | | the —" | 14 | Send out | 43 Freeway access |
| 30 Carte lead-in | | | 15 | 22 Cabbage salad | 44 Hodge-podge |
| 33 Tackle moguls | | | 16 | Under | 45 Venomous vipers |
| 34 Gold measure | | | 17 | 23 "M*A*S*H" | 47 Streamlet |
| 35 In medias — | | | 18 | setting | 48 Icky pond surface |
| 36 Crony | | | 19 | | 49 Resistance units |
| 37 Basin accessory | | | 20 | | 52 Exist |
| | | | 21 | | 53 Big Apple letters |

Solution time: 21 mins.



Yesterday's answer 11-2

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Nelly, 37; David Schwimmer, 45; k.d.lang, 50; Stefanie Powers, 69.

Happy Birthday: Your imagination will be in overdrive, and you will be surrounded by people who share your dynamism. Frequent places that offer excitement, pleasure or a new way of life. It's out with the old and in with the new. Whether you downsize or size-up, change is what you require. Your numbers are 4, 11, 27, 32, 34, 41, 45.



ARIES (March 21-April 19): Excitement will unfold and good wishes and greater prosperity are apparent through winnings, settlements, contracts or gifts. Do what you can to help others and the rewards will be high and emotionally touching. Change will bring love and success. **★★★**



TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don't let uncertainty win when it comes to your status or position. Keep things in perspective and don't overanalyze the situation you are in or you will overreact, causing more harm than good. Sit tight and go with the flow. **★★**



GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Take pride in your home, family, friends and life. Take a creative approach to making the most of what you've got and you will outshine anyone who tries to compete with you. A change of heart will benefit you. **★★★★**



CANCER (June 21-July 22): Change can make the difference in the outcome of something you are working towards. Your willingness to try new things will show your adaptability and eagerness to fit into the plans of

those with whom, or for whom, you work. Versatility will help you professionally. **★★★**



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Keep your plans simple. You can have fun and impress someone you are interested in by being imaginative and frugal. Overdoing, overreacting and being emotionally indulgent will work against you. A change of scenery will do you good and lead to new friendships. **★★★**



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Keep your emotions out of the equation when dealing with friends, relatives and neighbors. Too much of anything will turn sour. Keep an open mind, but at the same time maintain a practical perspective about what's going on around you. **★★★**



TAURUS (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Emphasize home, family and creativity. A change in the way you do things or live your life will bring about professional alterations that better suit you. Don't let the past or the demands of others stand in the way of your plans. **★★★★★**



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Communication may be a problem for you if you aren't mindful of what you say. Someone is likely to end up with hurt feelings. Concentrate on protecting partnerships and you will avoid a multitude of mishaps, disagreements and a loss of reputation. **★★**



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Don't let the past haunt you. Deal with any emotional connections that are pulling you backward so you can get on with your life. A move, or even adjusting the way you think

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY



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or deal with such matters, will help. **★★★★**

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Consistency will play a role in how things turn out. Don't make an impulsive move. A deal may entice you, but without all the facts and figures in place, it will be best if you take a pass. Work on a sure thing, not a gamble. **★★★**



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Emotions will be difficult to contain and arguments will be hard to avoid. Focus on what you can learn from the situation or experience. Love is in the stars, but uncertainty will prevail. Don't make promises you can't keep. **★★★**



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Your best efforts will pay off. Avoid emotional manipulation that will take your mind off what needs to be done. Separate your personal and business affairs. Involvement in groups that put stipulations on your beliefs must be avoided. **★★★**

Birthday Baby: You are a thrill-seeker. You welcome challenges and competition.

Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| | 8 | 4 | | | 2 | 5 | | |
| | 5 | | | | 9 | | | |
| 9 | | | 2 | | | | | |
| 5 | | | 6 | | | | | |
| 3 | | | 9 | | | | | |
| 8 | 2 | 6 | | 3 | 5 | 1 | | |
| 7 | | 6 | 8 | | | 1 | | |
| 6 | | 9 | 4 | | | | 2 | |
| 9 | 1 | | | 4 | 6 | | | |

Difficulty Level ★★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

WONDERWORD

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

THE SIMPSONS GAME

Solution: 8 letters

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| F | P | A | T | S | N | I | B | C | O | L | I | S | A | F |
| L | I | R | D | T | I | M | E | B | L | M | E | R | M | A |
| G | A | R | U | A | O | H | J | O | M | I | O | V | R | M |
| B | A | I | E | B | O | E | R | U | C | L | C | E | E | I |
| C | H | M | R | M | C | T | G | I | O | S | S | H | D | L |
| O | D | N | E | T | N | I | N | C | R | O | L | N | E | Y |
| E | D | R | S | O | A | O | H | E | L | K | A | A | A | S |
| G | U | S | C | N | R | A | W | V | S | L | S | L | M | N |
| R | B | A | T | T | R | O | E | C | L | C | P | A | W | O |
| A | N | V | C | A | P | N | E | I | O | S | C | R | T | I |
| M | C | E | C | R | E | N | W | L | I | H | I | R | O | S |
| D | L | T | E | M | A | R | L | D | I | G | A | E | T | N |
| E | E | P | I | R | A | E | H | N | V | D | E | D | A | |
| R | U | E | I | O | C | T | E | I | | | | | | |

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EMPLOYMENT

handler's certificate. No phone calls please. E-mail resume to BARNY'S PIZZA at jimmy@pticom.com

A & C Enterprises is looking for (1) Masseuse – at least 2 years work experience (2) Beautician – at least 2 years work experience Interested US Workers may submit resume to jennielyn_cruz2009@yahoo.com

1 Dress Maker w/ 2 yrs experience. Tonette's Dress Shop tel. 2862948. Send resume PO Box 7475 SVRB

CMI General Construction Needs: 22 Construction Workers, 1 Draftsman, 1 Construction Supervisor, 1 Comptroller / Accountant.

Yujuin Store Needs: 3 Cooks/ Food Handler, 1 Salesperson, 1 Accountant.

Email resume to cmi.gencon@gmail.com

6 Maids/Housekeeping Cleaners, 1 Maintenance Worker. Email saipanmachinery@yahoo.com. SPN MACHINERY, INC.

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1-Commercial Cleaner and 1-Houseworker Minimum of 1 or 2 yrs work related experience. Interested individuals may contact Ronny's Rental at 235-0001.

1-Accounts Payable/Payroll Accountant-\$5.05-\$6.50/hour, Bachelor's Degree in Bus. Admin., 5 yrs. experience, knowledge in JD Edwards software, Sage ABRA payroll modules preferred, willing to work off-site. Qualified US applicants may mail resume to RR & Associates, PO Box 504039, Saipan, MP 96950 or call (670) 233-8391.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT - BIG BELL, INC.
One (1) Cost Estimator

- Must be a College Graduate. At least 10 years of work experience. Knowledge in analyzing blueprints and other documentation to prepare time, cost, materials, and labor estimates. Knowledge of design techniques, tools, and principles involved in production of precision technical plans, blueprints, drawings, and models. Knowledge in preparing estimates for use in selecting vendors or subcontractors. Knowledge of assessing cost effectiveness of products, projects or services, tracking actual costs relative to bids as the project develops.

One (1) Project Supervisor

- College level. Must have at least 10 years or more experience in construction operations. Knowledge in preparing estimates for proposals. Must have knowledge in structural engineering and architectural design. Proficient in preparing project schedule. Great familiarity with local building by-laws and other regulatory framework dealing with built environment and remarkable expertise in client servicing.

One (1) Accountant

- At least 2-3 years working experience. Compute taxes owed and prepare tax returns, ensuring compliance with payment, reporting or other tax requirements. FICA, BORT, EWHT, Bar Tax) Must have knowledge in Peachtree Accounting System software. Handles customer billing, collections, and payments. Prepares/Computes payroll. Proficiency in administrative and clerical procedures and systems such as Microsoft Office Word and Excel, managing files and records, designing forms, and other office procedures and terminology. Bachelor's degree in Accounting required.

Thirty (30) Carpenters/Construction Workers

- 5 or more years of experience in construction project. Ability to study specifications in blueprints, sketches, or building plans to prepare project layout and determine dimensions and materials required. Knowledge in shape or cut materials to specified measurements, using hand tools, machines, or power tools. Knowledge of building or repairing cabinets, doors, frameworks, floors, or other wooden fixtures used in building. Knowledge of materials, methods, and the tools involved in the construction or repair of houses, buildings, or other structures.

One (1) Heavy Equipment Operator/Mechanic

- With at least 5 years of work experience. Must have a valid driver's license in operating heavy equipment. Must know how to operate and repair H.E. Motors.

Email resume at bigbel@pticom.com or bring personally at Kobleville, P.O. Box 5423

CHR, Saipan MP 96950. Phone calls will not be entertained.

MICRONESIAN LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION
JOB ANNOUNCEMENT
Executive Director

Micronesian Legal Services Corporation (MLSC) provides free legal services to people of limited financial means in the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Republic of Palau. The administrative office is located in Capitol Hill, Saipan, MLSC is seeking applications for the position of Executive Director, who will work at the Capitol Hill Office.

Qualifications:

A J.D. degree, or the equivalent, and at least ten years of relevant professional legal experience, preferably in the area of providing free legal services to those of limited financial means.

General Responsibilities:

The Executive Director acts as the chief executive officer of Micronesian Legal Services Corporation, and is appointed by and accountable to the Board Directors of MLSC. The Executive Director is responsible for insuring the economical and effective delivery of legal services and the maintenance of the highest quality of services and professional standards.

Duties Include:

- Develop and implement strategies to fulfill the goals of MLSC as set by the MLSC Articles of Incorporation and Board of Directors.
- Adopt rules and policies in furtherance of action taken by the Board of Directors.
- Assure implementation of and adherence to MLSC policy, in conjunction with the Deputy Director and as set forth in the Client Service Manual, Office Policies Binder, Personnel Manual, all job descriptions, and other MLSC policies.
- Assure compliance with Legal Services Corporation Regulations and instructions and funding conditions, in conjunction with the Deputy Director.
- Make staff hiring and termination decisions in accordance with personnel policies.
- Propose a budget annually to the Board of Directors, which includes staff size and configuration, staff benefits, office space and equipment, and all other expenditures.
- Supervise the preparation of the annual Refunding Application to the Legal Services Corporation and respond to inquiries regarding the Application.
- Work with Micronesian governments in conjunction with other staff members regarding annual appropriations to MLSC, and coordinate applications for other sources of funds.
- Maintain productive relations with the Board of Directors, Legal Services Corporation, and governmental and non-governmental institutions whose actions have an effect on MLSC.

Compensation and Benefits:

Compensation is dependent upon experience. Benefits include health insurance, annual leave, sick leave, and employer contribution to a 401(k) program. Please submit a resume and letter of interest by November 20, 2011, to:

By mail: Micronesian Legal Service Corporation
P.O. Box 500269, Saipan, MP 96950
By email: co@mlscnet.org

Job Announcement for Qualified U.S. Citizens
Position: 1 tour Coordinator

Salary: \$5.05/hr

Duties and Qualification Requirement:

Coordinate all incoming schedules, assist in customer tour participation, explain in Japanese for all forms needed to be read and signed. Contacting other tour company for scheduling and reservations and other related duties as assigned. Fully able to read, write and speak fluent Japanese. Must have at least 2 years experience in tour related activities.

Position: 2 Marine Sports Coordinator

Salary: \$5.05/hr

Duties and Qualification Requirement:

Assist in coordinating all incoming schedules, assist in tour and marine sports participation. Explain in Japanese for all forms regarding sales promotion and schedules of the company's daily activity and perform other related duties as assigned. Fully able to speak fluent Japanese. Must have at least 5 years experience in marine sports sales related activities.

Position: 3 Life Guard

Salary: \$5.05/hr; Flexible Time Schedule

Duties and Qualification Requirement:

Must monitor activities in swimming areas to prevent accidents, check for hazardous objects that may cause harm or damage. Caution swimmers regarding unsafe areas. Rescue swimmers in danger or drowning. Must be able to administer CPR and First Aid and perform other related duties as assigned. Must be High school graduate with at least 2 years experience as a life guard. Must possess unexpired Life Guard, CPR and First Aid certificates (American Red Cross).

Interested applicants may submit their RESUME to the Marine Sports Center counter located at the beach side of Hafadai Beach Hotel not later than November 09, 2011.

Tropical Leisure Sports, Inc.
P.O. Box 500157 CK Saipan, MP 96950 • Tel. (670) 233-8574, Fax. (670) 233-0850
Email: tlssaipan@gmail.com

Position: 1 Manager, Marine Service

Salary: \$5.05/hr

Duties and Qualification Requirement:

Direct activities of boat services, according to knowledge of maintenance need of small craft and marine safety requirements. Confers with owner or crew of vessel to obtain maintenance history and details concerning condition of craft. Observes and listens to vessel in operation to detect unsafe or malfunctioning equipment and leaks or other flaws in hull and superstructure. Must be able to repair/overhaul boat engine (gasoline or diesel) and other related duties as assigned. Employer Preference: College graduate with at least 5 years experience and must be able to perform the job duties.

Position: 1 Operations Manager

Salary: \$5.05/hr

Duties and Qualification Requirement:

Plan, direct or coordinate the operations of company, manage daily operations. Oversee activities directly related to making products or providing services. Manage staff, preparing work schedules and assigning specific duties. Coordinating with other department heads as required and other related duties as assigned to. College graduate with at least 5 years experience, preferably in managing water sports activities.

Position: 1 Houseworker

Salary: \$5.05/hr

Duties and Qualification Requirement:

Perform household tasks. Minimum 5 years work experience. High school graduate or equivalent. Must be able to speak and write in English. Ability to speak/understand foreign language is a plus.

WHITE HOUSE ENTERPRISES is looking for:
(1) General Manager (Guest Relations)

Qualifications: Requires at least a high school graduate, associate's degree preferred. A minimum of five years of work-related skill, knowledge or experience. Willing to work late hours. Must speak Korean and Japanese languages.

Duties: Plan, direct or coordinate the operation of the company. Formulate policies, manage daily operations, purchasing, hiring. Implement strategies and setting overall direction of the company. Oversee and directs the company's financial goals, objectives and budgets. May prepare organizational budget and monthly financial reports. Interact with guests and assists customers. Perform other related duties.

(1) Salesperson

Qualifications: A minimum of five years of work-related skill, knowledge or experience.

Duties: Assists customers in finding what they are looking for. Try to increase sales by describing a product's features, demonstrating its uses and promoting its value. Conduct financial transactions with customers, receive payments and operate cash registers. Help stock shelves or racks, arrange for delivery of purchases, mark price tags, take inventory and prepare displays. Perform other related duties that may be assigned.

(1) Bookkeeping/Accounting Clerk

Qualifications: Requires at least an associate's degree in accounting, bachelor's degree in accounting preferred. A minimum of five years of work-related skill, knowledge or experience in a law firm. Must be literate in computer and computer applications and proficient in the use of software such as Peach Tree, Excel, Word, and Quickbooks. Requires ability to work under pressure.

Duties: Maintains accounting records including expenditures, receipts, accounts payable and receivable, and profit and loss. Prepares bank deposits, handle payroll, make purchases, prepare invoices and keep track of overdues accounts. Posts details of transactions, total accounts and computes interest charges. Ensures completeness and accuracy of data on accounts. Reconciles bank statements. Cashiering, invoicing. Prepares financial statements, reports and summaries. Computes taxes owed and prepared tax returns. Performs other related duties as may be assigned.

Salary commensurate with experience.

Applications may be submitted to White House Enterprises at Dandan, Saipan, Tel. No. 235-1616. All applications must be accompanied by a current resume.

Job Vacancy Announcement
(1) Electronic Technician-5 yrs experience \$ 5.05/hr. Must be certified/licensed air-conditioning technician. Knowledgeable in satellite TV System, CCTV camera, entertainment equipment & other electronics equipment-installation and service repair. Interested applicant must contact and submit resume to Lanqiang L. Barcina dba Ally Electronics, P.O. Box 503534 CK Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. # 287-9968/email:lanqiang@hotmail.com

Job Vacancy Announcement
ALLIED CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION
(1) Accountant
 Must have a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting. At least 5 years experience in general and cost accounting. Knowledgeable in Pill Accounting Software Inventory and Payroll. Salary: \$9.65-\$13.00 per hour.
 Interested qualified US workers can send resume to jimmy@pticon.com. No phone calls please.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
8 - Construction Worker
2 - Maintenance Worker
 Minimum of 5 years. Experience in building maintenance/repair to include electrical, plumbing (including motors and pumps), carpentry, car body repair and painting job. Willing to work flexible time,\$ 5.05 per hour,
 Bespen Development Corp. dba Five Star Builders Construction Please submit resume or contact Rudy at 233-6927

Job Vacancy Announcement
 Erika's Catering
1 Kitchen Helper
2 Cook
 Salary \$5.05/hr. 2 years work experience. Willing to work during holidays
 Contact Ms. Regina S. Manibusan Tel no. 288-4121

Job Vacancy Announcement
(1) Sales Associate w/ 3 yrs work experience in cashiering and previous retail experience preferred. Be able to perform duties with minimum supervision; and be able to work irregular hours, such as shifts, holiday and weekends. Candidate must be knowledgeable in accounting basics and POS system. Ability to speak and understand a foreign language in addition to English is most desirable. Submit resume to mapagahes@gmail.com.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
1-Commercial Cleaner
1-Maintenance Repairer
 If interested, send resume and police clearance to Fruitful, Inc. P.O. Box 5061 CHRB Saipan MP 96950. Tel. # 989-3827

Herbarium Farmer. Salary \$ 300 - \$ 500.00/mo. w/ housing, utilities, food allowance, ground transportation and worker's compensation insurance provided. 5 Years experience in growing herbs and Mascul leaves. Must be able to operate farm machinery. Please submit bio-data, resume, police clearance and other supporting documents via email. happydaysaipan@hotmail.com. Closing date is November 4, 2011.

KP Ent., Inc. dba KP Video Production needs:
1 - Video Operator, rate \$5.05 to \$5.55/hr.
 Must have 5 years experience in video footage & editing using professional video cam, high school graduate, to work flexible hours, Monday to Sunday in Tinian. Interested applicants may submit resume to KP Store @ HuangShun Blvd., San Jose, Tinian or e-mail resume to kpente@pticon.com

Job Vacancy Announcement
ASIA 360 INC.
(1) Accountant: At least 5 years work experience in wholesale business. Must have a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting. Proficient knowledge in Microsoft Office, Peachtree Accounting and Quick Books accounting software. Salary: \$10.00 - \$11.50/hr

EWGE Corporation dba Kevin's Video II
Job Vacancy Announcement
(2) Video Sales Clerk
 3 years work experience
 Requirements: To entertain and assist customers in movie selection for rental or purchase; must have a broad background in movies entertainment; prepare reports monthly - for DVD stock inventory. Daily cleanup of premises; good customer relation and sales skills; able to read and write English language; must be computer literate; must have high school diploma or GED; must be 18 yrs of age or older; must provide police clearance and health clearance; must be of good character and dress neatly. Flexible days off. Salary: \$5.05.
 Interested applicants may submit a resume to any of the following branch:
 Kagman 256-6988, Dandan 235-6988 or Gualo Rai 235-6986.

Job Vacancy Announcement
■ Maintenance Electrician
■ Maintenance Building Repairer
 Interested qualified US workers may fax, email, or submit in person, a resume and police clearance. Any applicant selected for these positions are required to take and pass a drug test screening prior to employment at applicant's cost.
 Application deadline for the two positions is Friday, Nov. 4, 2011, 4:00 p.m.

PACIFIC HISTORIC PARKS
 AT AMERICAN MEMORIAL PARK
Store Manager
 Extensive retail experience in a Supervisory position. Computer Skills in Office, Excel, PP and retail Software. Schedules, trains, motivates, report writing. Exceptional detail skills. Math, people, safety skills. Knowledge of Labor laws of CNMI. Multiple languages preferred. Flexible days and hours but must be willing to work all days Monday thru Sunday. Reliable transportation, reimbursable mileage for Work. Send resume and cover letter explaining your above skills to:
 Cindy Rapadas
 Regional Manager
 Pacific Historic Parks
 135 Murray Street
 Hagatna, Guam 96910
 No phone calls please.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
1-COMMERCIAL CLEANER - \$ 5.05/hr, 5 yrs. Experience Cleaning residential. Trustworthiness and reliability important.
 If interested send resume and copy of police clearance to
 THERESITA P. MAFNAS
 P.O. Box 50125, Saipan, MP 96950 • Tel#: 286-4004

Job Vacancy Announcement
PACIFIC CHANGHONG CORPORATION
(1) Office Manager, (1) Sales Manager & (2) Aircon Technician
 2-3 years knowledge in HVAC & Refrigeration required. Salary based on experience / qualifications.
 Interested applicants may submit application to linryongspn@hotmail.com

Job Vacancy Announcement
(1) Administrative Assistant: 2 years experience in wholesale business. Proficient knowledge in Microsoft Office.
 Interested Qualified US Workers may send resume to rbalv11@yahoo.com

Job Vacancy Announcement
EWGE Corporation dba Kevin's Video II
Job Vacancy Announcement
(2) Video Sales Clerk
 3 years work experience
 Requirements: To entertain and assist customers in movie selection for rental or purchase; must have a broad background in movies entertainment; prepare reports monthly - for DVD stock inventory. Daily cleanup of premises; good customer relation and sales skills; able to read and write English language; must be computer literate; must have high school diploma or GED; must be 18 yrs of age or older; must provide police clearance and health clearance; must be of good character and dress neatly. Flexible days off. Salary: \$5.05.
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Job Vacancy Announcement
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 Application deadline for the two positions is Friday, Nov. 4, 2011, 4:00 p.m.

PACIFIC DAIKEN CO., LTD.
 PO Box 501042, Saipan, MP 96950
 Tel: 234-7453 / Fax: 234-7996
 bern.ito@pacificdaiken.com
 No phone calls please.

Job Vacancy Announcement
Operations Manager
 Interested qualified US workers may fax, email, or submit in person, a resume and police clearance.
 Any applicant selected for these positions are required to take and pass a drug test screening prior to employment at applicant's cost.
 Application deadline is Wednesday, Nov. 9, 2011, 4:00 p.m.
 PACIFIC DAIKEN CO. LTD. • PO Box 501042, Saipan, MP 96950
 Tel: 234-7453 / Fax: 234-7996 • bern.ito@pacificdaiken.com

Job Vacancy Announcement
Household Worker (1)
 Salary \$ 5.05 per hour.
 Responsibilities include general household work, cooking, and related tasks. Knows how to operate washing machine, vacuum cleaner and cooking appliances, trustworthy, reliable, and willing to work flexible hours for families and other business clients. Employee must have at least two years experience.
 Submit resume to: Pete A Consulting, P.O. Box 500042, Saipan MP 96950 no later than Thursday, November 10, 2011. Call for interview: 483-5870

Pacific Data System (PDS)
 would like to announce a position for
Telecommunications Manager for their Saipan office.
 The applicant must have prior experience with the installation and upkeep of 2 and 4 wire UNEs, T1s, PRIs, XDSL, etc. Must also possess knowledge of PBX systems whether VoIP or Traditional. Certifications such as A+, Network+, Security+, and CCNA recommended but not required.
 Submit resumes to jobs@pdscnmi.com

Job Vacancy Announcement
JAPAN ENTERPRISES CORP. DBA CLUB MICRONESIA
15 DANCERS
 Qualifications:
 • At least 21 – 25 years old with pleasing personality.
 • 2 – 3 years experience as a Waitress in a bar or in an Entertainment Business.
 • Full time with flexible working hours.
 • Salary \$5.05/hr.
 • Japanese speaking preferred.
10 WAITRESS
 Qualifications:
 • At least 21 – 25 years old with pleasing personality.
 • 2 – 3 years experience as a Waitress in a bar or in an Entertainment Business.
 • Full time with flexible working hours.
 • Salary \$5.05/hr.
 • Japanese speaking preferred.
 Please mail your resume to P.O. Box 502589 Saipan, MP 96950 or Contact our Office at Tel: (670) 233-1545 between 2:30PM to 9:00PM.

Job Vacancy Announcement
RUSTAN'S FOREIGN EXCHANGE SAIPAN
 Invites qualified US Citizens to apply for the below position;
Operations Manager (1) - Graduate of a 4 year degree course in Accounting or Business Management. Must have a minimum of 5 years experience and has extensive knowledge in remittance business. The candidate must be knowledgeable in Anti Money Laundering Regulations, business planning & sales. Excellent communication skills, customer service and strong inter personal skills is a must. Must be knowledgeable in remittance software application including MS Word and Excel. Ability to speak Filipino as a 2nd language is an advantage.
 Police clearance and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment. Compensation will be commensurate with qualifications. For applications to be considered, they should be sent to rfesaipan@hotmail.com no later than November 04, 2011.

Job Vacancy Announcement
JAGUAR LIMITED DBA. CLUB MERMAID
1 GENERAL MANAGER
 Qualifications:
 • 3 – 4 years work experience.
 • College graduate or college level with Management Course.
 • Responsible for establishing goals & objectives for the operation.
 • Has excellent sales and marketing executions.
 • Ability to control profit & loss with business analysis.
 • Salary \$7.00/hr.
1 BARTENDER
 Qualifications:
 • At least 3 – 5 years experience.
 • Full time with flexible working hours.
 • Salary \$5.05/hr.
 • Japanese speaking preferred.
1 SUPERVISOR
 Qualifications:
 • 3 – 5 years work experience in Bar/Night Club operation.
 • Preferably College Graduate or College level.
 • Full time with flexible working hours.
 • Salary \$5.05/hr.

15 WAITRESS
 Qualifications:
 • At least 21 – 25 years old with pleasing personality.
 • 2 – 3 years experience as a Waitress in a bar or in an Entertainment Business.
 • Full time with flexible working hours.
 • Salary \$5.05/hr.
 • Japanese speaking preferred.
5 SINGERS
 Qualifications:
 • At least 21 – 25 years old with pleasing personality.
 • 2 – 3 years experience as a Singer in a Karaoke Bar or in an Entertainment Business.
 • Full time with flexible working hours.
 • Salary \$5.05/hr.
 • Japanese speaking preferred.
 Please mail your resume to PMB 697 BOX 10000 Saipan, MP 96950 Contact our Office at Tel: (670) 233-1545 between 2:30PM to 9:00PM.

JUNG DONG ENT.
1 Building Maintenance Worker
Qualifications: High school graduate. A minimum of five years of work-related experience, knowledge or skill required. Must have strong skills and knowledgeable in building maintenance. Must be able to repair and maintain buildings, machinery, electrical and mechanical equipment. Must have basic knowledge and work experience doing carpentry, plumbing, electrical, masonry. Maintain tools, equipment, or structures, such as buildings, greenhouses, fences, or bench using hand or power tools. Minor repairs on small engines. Must be responsible and self-motivated. Must be hard-working, and able to follow directions well. Must be honest, dependable and trustworthy.
Duties: Maintain and repair machines, mechanical equipment and buildings. Work on plumbing, electrical and air-conditioning. Build partitions, make plaster or drywall repairs and fix or paint roofs, windows, doors, floors, woodwork and other parts of building structures. Trouble shooting and fixing faulty electrical switches, repairing air-conditioning motors and unclogging drains. Inspect and diagnose problems and determine best way to correct them. Obtain supplies and repair parts from distributors or storerooms. Use common hand and power tools and specialized equipment and electronic testing devices. Replace or fix worn or broken parts or make adjustments to correct malfunctioning equipment and machines. Perform routine preventive maintenance and ensure that machines continue to run smoothly, building systems operate efficiently and the physical condition of buildings does not deteriorate.
 Salary commensurate with experience.
 Applications may be submitted to Jung Dong Ent. at Dandan, Saipan, Tel. No. 235-2151.
 All applications must be accompanied by a current resume.

MICRONESIAN LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
 Opening Date: Oct. 14, 2011 • Closing Date: Nov. 04, 2011
 Micronesian Legal Services Corporation is looking for self-motivated individuals to fill the following positions:
1. General Accountant
 With Bachelor's Degree Major in Accounting.
 With minimum of 5-years experience in General accounting.
 Must be familiar with Peachtree Premium Accounting system.
 Working knowledge of Microsoft Office software.
 Must be familiar with CNMI/Federal Tax system.
 Must be familiar with FSM, RMI & Palau's Tax System.
 Salary depending on experience.
2. Computer Support Specialist
 Must have a course certificate or equivalent college degree in Computer Technology.
 With minimum of 5-years experience in computer, network and telecommunication systems.
 Must be familiar with Kems Case Management Software.
 Salary depending on experience.
 Please send your resume and current Police Clearance to: admin.ctrncal@mlscnet.org; fax to: (670) 322-7101 or mail to: P.O. Box 500269 Saipan, MP 96950.
 MLS is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Asia Pacific Hotels Inc., dba Saipan Grand Hotel
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
POSITION : (1) PowerHouse Mechanic (Power Plant)
QUALIFICATIONS: Able to diagnose, installs, adjusts, maintains, and repairs electrical and mechanical equipment and parts in power-plant generating systems. Minimum 5 years work experience required. High School graduate or equivalent.
 Applications can be obtained at the Security Office at the Hotel's Backside.
 To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than November 02, 2011.
 Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.
 Saipan Grand Hotel, Saipan is an Equal Opportunity Employer
 Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

Job Vacancy Announcement
Auditor and Senior Auditor
 Open: October 24, 2011 • Closed: November 07, 2011
 FLSA Status: Exempt
 The CNMI Office of the Public Auditor (OPA) is looking for experienced auditors to fill-in the following positions: Auditor and Senior Auditor. Detailed information about the requirement for the positions and employment application may be obtained at the OPA website: http://www.opacnmi.com.
 Interested applicants must submit all the required information by mail, email, or hand delivery at the office/email addresses listed below. Submission must be marked confidential and must have the applicant's name and returned address.
 Office of the Public Auditor
 1236 Yap Drive, Capitol Hill • P.O. Box 501399, Saipan MP 96950
 Email: jobs@opacnmi.com

Job Vacancy Announcement
Legal Counsel (2)
 Open: October 24, 2011 • Closed: November 07, 2011
 FLSA Status: Exempt
 The CNMI Office of the Public Auditor (OPA) is looking for experienced legal counsels. Detailed information about the requirement for the positions and employment application may be obtained at the OPA website: http://www.opacnmi.com.
 Interested applicants must submit all the required information by mail, email, or hand delivery at the office/email addresses listed below. Submission must be marked confidential and must have the applicant's name and returned address.
 Office of the Public Auditor
 1236 Yap Drive, Capitol Hill • P.O. Box 501399, Saipan MP 96950
 Email: jobs@opacnmi.com

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 CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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Carrier Guam, Inc. is looking for**PROJECT ENGINEER****Job Description:**

- Team leader for Carrier Saipan branch operations.
- Responsible in making decision regarding normal or routine transactions under the guidance and approval of the Manager in accordance with Carrier Corporation policies and procedures.
- Reports to the Branch Manager on carrier Saipan operations.
- Directs support to off-shore dealer's accounts; attends to HVAC system inquiries; sales or technical issues, accessories and parts from customers Offshore (Japan, and Diego Garcia; prepares estimates and quotations).
- Attends to HVAC inquiries in the CNMI including FAS Marshalls Islands, Palau.
- Does other related jobs as required by the Manager.

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's Degree preferably in Mechanical Engineering.
- Knowledge and background of HVAC Systems.
- Minimum of 3-5 years experience in installation, supervision and design of HVAC Systems and Equipment.
- Knowledgeable in Computer HVAC Builder Programs.
- Knowledge or background in SAP applications.

REFRIGERATION & AIR CON TECHNICIAN**Job Description:**

- Performs services and Preventive Maintenance on industrial, commercial and residential air conditioning & refrigeration system including AC units with Building Management System (BMS), AC units with Variable Volume and Temperature (VVT).
- Performs troubleshooting and repair of various types of air conditioning and refrigeration systems.
- Performs installation, start-up, testing and commissioning of various Air Conditioning equipments.
- Prepares estimate & quotation for the supply of Residential and Light Commercial Airconditioning.
- Prepares estimate and quotation for repair works, including equipment and/or parts replacement.
- Coordinates with customers to meet their preliminary requirements on installation of equipment.

Qualifications:

- Must have EPA Universal license.
- Preferably knowledgeable in HVAC troubleshooting and repairs, installation, commissioning and preventive maintenance, with minimum work experience of 3-5 years or related equivalent.
- Preferably with experience in the start-up and commissioning of Chillers.
- Knowledgeable in MS Word and MS Excel.
- Must be a graduate of 2-year vocational course on Refrigeration and Airconditioning or its equivalent.

ACCOUNTANT**Job Description:***Finance & Accounting, Controls & Compliance:*

- Responsible for the daily accounting, reporting, finance and tax and regulatory compliance of the branch.
- Provides financial information and reports of the branch as required by management.
- Maintains company's ledgers; reconcile various GL account analysis and ensure accurate recording of transactions.
- Does audit function of petty cash fund; verifies the accuracy of the charges and reports to Guam office.
- Prepares annual physical inventory count of the branch.
- Prepares payment vouchers for branch and other related disbursement activities.
- Maintain records of fixed assets including any acquisition, deletions.
- Prepare journal vouchers for as required and other adjustments as may deem necessary.
- Ensures compliance of accounting controls and procedures in compliance with UTC/ Carrier Finance policies and procedures.
- Ensures compliance of CNMI rules and regulations including business tax returns, license, occupancy and zoning and other related regulatory requirements.
- Performs other accounting functions as may deem necessary.

Credit / Collections:

- Performs as credit controller of the branch.
- Follow up customer payments; reviews aging report and coordinate with customers in the expeditious settlement of their account.
- Send statement of accounts and resolve any outstanding amount of customers.
- Prepares receiving vouchers for all customer payments received for the period; forward documents to Guam for booking.
- Perform annual credit review of all Saipan customers.

Sales Support:

- Prepares weekly and monthly sales report for Forecast Package.
- Monitor daily sales report; verifies the postings of correct codes; ensure prompt reporting of any adjustments.
- Verifies all cash sales from store and service departments.
- Process goods received notes for all incoming shipments; indent and regular stocks including the related costs.
- Process credit notes for any adjustments, price discrepancy returns and other related transactions as required.
- Prepares sales ledger adjustments to reconcile with the sales ledger account.

Administrative Support:

- Responsible in reporting any IT issues and concerns at branch.
- Promotes and strengthens ACE program of the branch.
- Ensures compliance of EH & S issues in accordance with UTC Safety Rules and Policies.
- Performs as Human Resource Coordinator and administrative officer of the branch.

Qualifications:

- Four (4) year Bachelor Degree in Accounting /college diploma or its equivalent.
- At least 3-5 years experience in HVAC industry.
- Knowledge in accounting, auditing and regulatory compliance.
- Excellent interpersonal skills, communication skills and interaction with internal and external customers.
- Ability to manage multiple tasks and meet deadlines in accounting closing period.
- Knowledge of Opera II software and other related accounting software.
- Must have experience in letter of credit.

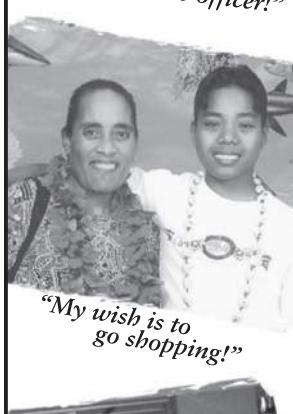
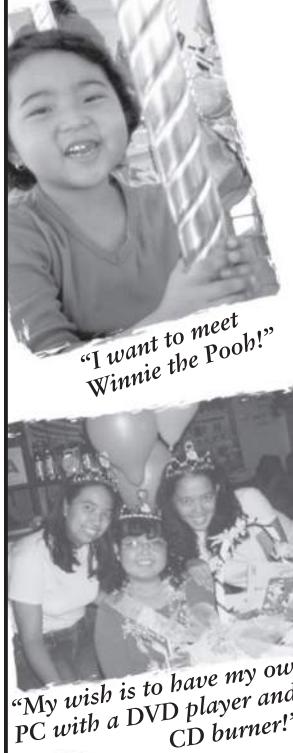
PROJECT COORDINATOR**Job Description:**

- Prepares quotations on equipment & parts.
- Coordinates work schedules for service and projects jobs.
- Prepares electronic time ticket of technician.
- Prepares invoices for jobs < \$500.00.
- Prepares job costing analysis for job < \$500.00.
- Prepares Purchase Orders.
- Maintains PO Log Tracking and forwards to Guam Office.
- Reconciles vendor accounts.
- Receives and accepts service calls.
- Prepares Pro-forma Invoice for project and secures payment.
- Prepares Sales Order for RLC, Project and when ordering parts for store.
- Coordinates with Guam (Store) regarding request for transhipment of parts and equipment.
- Coordinates with off-island customers on payment, order status and other after-sales services.
- Prepares monthly Backlog reports.
- Provides support in tracking orders and provide status to team members.
- Updates status of customers orders and job status.
- In-charge of airline booking, hotel and accommodation booking for personnel on official trips.
- Input time in/ time out on electronic file and submit to Guam for approvals.
- Collates all necessary shipping documents of shipments then submit to Accounting for GRN.
- Issues OR and prepares STR.
- Issues Store Requisition when store personnel is not available.
- Assists store as needed.
- Assists Project Sales in other needed documents.
- Inquire parts availability from Guam store, ARCD & vendors.
- Coordinates with forwarders in all shipping related matters.

Qualifications:

- Minimum of 3 - 5 years of administrative duties and related experience.
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office applications, Word, Excel and Power Point.
- Preferably college graduate or its equivalent educational degree.
- Excellent interpersonal skills, communication skills, phone skills/telephone manners.
- Ability to prioritize project, work relatively independently, manage multiple tasks and meet deadlines.
- Knowledge in Pegasus Opera II System, SAP & HVAC.
- Ability to be flexible, proactive and disciplined required.
- Ability to respond to customer inquiries and needs.
- Must have experience in Letters of Credit.

Interested applicants may get application form at
Carrier Guam, Inc. Saipan Branch office, Moir Building, Chalan Pale Arnold Road.
Submit Application with Resume, Photo ID and Police/Court Clearance no later than November 11, 2011.

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come true!**
For eligible children with
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Orlean Pacific Plaza Ste. 104
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Fax: (671) 646-6293
Email: mawguam@ite.net
www.wish.org
Office Hours: 8:30am to 5:30pm
M-F daily

Saipan Tribune

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as \$27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS

| | COMBO | (PRINT AND ONLINE) |
|------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| • 3-Liner | \$15 | \$27 |
| • 5-Liner | \$24 | \$39 |
| • 3-Liner with picture | \$24 | \$42 |
| • 5-Liner with picture | \$36 | \$57 |

ADVERTISING DEADLINE**Classified Ads**

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:

■ All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION**Classified Ads**

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

**little late
little late**

www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

After 3 World Series titles, La Russa retires



ST. LOUIS (AP)—Tony La Russa waited until after the championship parade and then called a team meeting with his players.

"We didn't know what to expect," said pitcher Chris Carpenter, who won Game 7 of the World Series against Texas on Friday night. "I think we all figured it was just going to be like, 'Thataway guys. Great year. Way to battle!' Instead, he dropped that on us. I think everybody was caught off-guard."

And with that, the 67-year-old La Russa said goodbye to baseball and became the first manager to retire immediately after leading his team to a Series title—the third of his career.

"I think this just feels like it's time to end it," he said Monday. "When I look in the mirror, I know I'd come back for the wrong reasons, and I didn't want to do that."

La Russa said he told general manager John Mozeliak of his decision in August—before the Cards rallied from a 10 1/2-game deficit in the NL wild-card race to upset Philadelphia and Milwaukee in the playoffs.

They won the thrilling seven-game Series after twice coming within a strike of elimination in Game 6.

"I tip my hat to him. He's had a great career. What a way to go out," Washington Nationals manager Davey Johnson said.

The player meeting was short and emotional.

"Some grown men cried," La Russa said, joking that, "I kind of liked that because they made me cry a few times."

La Russa won the World Series with Oakland in 1989, and St. Louis in 2006 and this year, joining Sparky Anderson as the only manager to win with clubs in both leagues.

During 33 seasons with the Chicago White Sox (1979-86), Oakland (1986-95) and St. Louis (1996-11), La Russa compiled a 2,728-2,365 regular-season record. He trails only Connie Mack (3,731) and John McGraw (2,763) for wins. And his 70 postseason victories are behind only Joe Torre's 84.

A rare manager with a law degree, La Russa was voted AL Manager of the Year three times, and NL Manager of the Year in 2002. He will be up for consideration for the Hall of Fame in December 2013, at the same time as Torre and Bobby Cox.

"I think you can make a case for him as best of all-time. Absolutely," said Detroit manager Jim Leyland, who coached for La Russa with the White Sox after managing against him in the minors.

Leyland said La Russa was the "total package" as a manager, obsessing over the lineup card, outfoxing opponents during games and refusing to bend to public opinion.

"Terry Francona used to say 'If you manage for the guys in the seats, pretty soon you'll be sitting with 'em.' Tony never worried about that stuff," Leyland said. "It's a good lesson for managers."

La Russa revolutionized the sport during his time with Oakland, making Dennis Eckersley a one-inning closer. Now, it's common for all 30 big league teams.

"He's been an outstanding leader of many different teams under many different circumstances, and that's hard to do," said New York Mets general manager Sandy Alderson, La Russa's GM



St. Louis Cardinals manager Tony La Russa speaks at a news conference at Busch Stadium in St. Louis, Monday, Oct. 31, 2011. La Russa retired as manager of the Cardinals, three days after winning a dramatic, seven-game World Series against the Texas Rangers.

with the Athletics.

La Russa had unusual strategies: He started a game with the pitcher batting eighth 432 times. He was renowned for his use of batter-pitcher matchups in determining which reliever to bring in, but also ridiculed "Moneyball" and its emphasis on statistics over human scouting and observation.

Potential successors include Francona, Jim Riggleman and Joe Maddon, who has one year left on his deal in Tampa Bay but has expressed interest in the Cardinals in the past.

A pal of Bobby Knight, Bill Parcells and Bill Belichick, La Russa was an outspoken supporter of PETA and animal rights, and could be seen during spring training years ago in Phoenix hitting fly balls to one of his dogs.

He was treated at the Mayo Clinic in May for shingles, which left his face swollen and right eye nearly shut. The manager downplayed his health, saying "it had no bearing on my future."

La Russa spoke with little emotion at the news conference with one exception, when he paused to compose himself as he thanked his wife, Elaine, and two daughters for putting up with his

Indians acquire Lowe; Sabathia stays with Yanks

NEW YORK (AP)—Three days before the opening of the free-agent market, the Cleveland Indians acquired pitcher Derek Lowe from the Atlanta Braves for minor league left-hander Chris Jones on Monday in the first significant trade of the offseason.

Rather than become a free agent, CC Sabathia agreed to a new deal with the New York Yankees that adds an additional season and \$30 million in guaranteed money, bringing the left-hander's total over the next five years to \$122 million.

Several teams exercised contract options on pitchers, among them Tampa Bay on James Shields (\$7.5 million), Texas on Colby Lewis (\$4 million), Kansas City on Joakim Soria (\$6 million) and the Chicago White Sox on

absence over much of his long tenure.

The news conference was held at 9 a.m. CDT, giving La Russa time to get to New York for an appearance on Monday's "Late Show with David Letterman" during which he joked a bit with the host.

Letterman asked La Russa how he was able to manage for so long and La Russa replied, "Uh, I don't know. How long have you done this?"

Letterman's reply: "This is my first night."

La Russa willingly shared credit for his longevity, telling Letterman that Dave Duncan "will go down as the greatest pitching coach in the history of the game."

And though he never relocated to St. Louis, La Russa had warm thoughts for the city.

"You don't like to disparage anybody else, David, but it's a unique place 'cause most places, they're with you win or tie, but with them, it's win or lose."

La Russa often appeared tightlipped at his televised postgame news conferences, but behind the scenes he showed his sense of humor and often poked

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Succop's FG in OT lifts Chiefs over Chargers



KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)—Ryan Succop kicked the Kansas City Chiefs into the history books.

Philip Rivers will be quite the footnote.

Succop knocked through a 30-yard field goal in overtime Monday night, giving the Chiefs a 23-20 win over the San Diego Chargers and moving them into an improbable tie atop the AFC West.

Kansas City became the first team in NFL history to lose its first three games and share at least part of a division lead after four more games. The Chiefs are also the first team since the Pittsburgh Steelers in 2000 to win four straight games after losing their first three.

Rivers could have prevented all of it from happening.

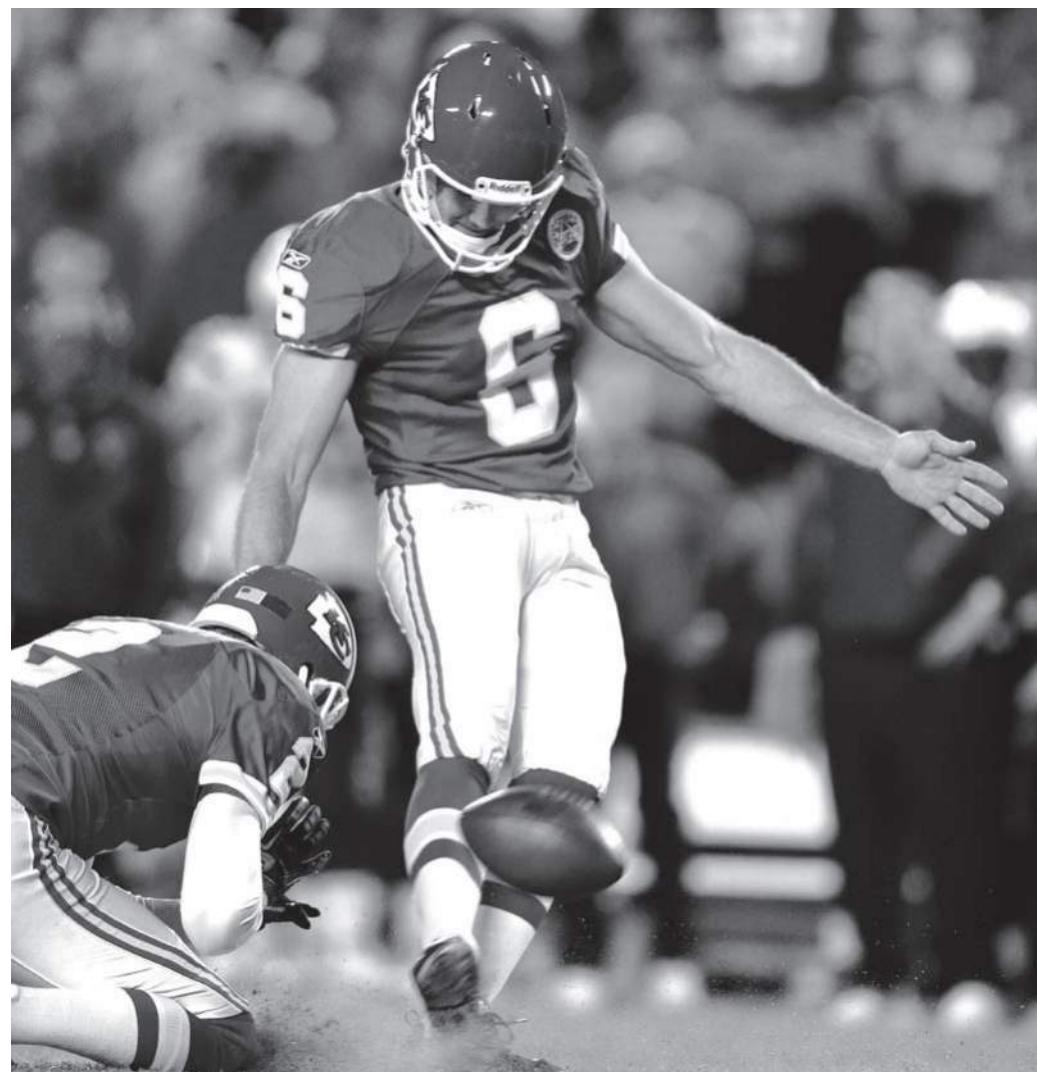
The Chargers had trailed the whole way before the three-time Pro Bowl quarterback marched them downfield in the closing minutes of regulation. With first-and-10 at the 15 and just 48 seconds on the clock, Rivers fumbled the snap and the Chiefs' Andy Studebaker clawed under the pile and retrieved the ball.

Kansas City moved down the field for its own chance to win in regulation, but Matt Cassel overthrew his intended receiver and Eric Weddle's second interception sent the game to overtime.

The Chargers won the toss but failed to pick up a first down, and Cassel calmly led Kansas City right down field.

Succop's field goal with 5:16 left gave the Chiefs (4-3) their fourth straight win and moved them into a tie with San Diego (4-3) and the idle Oakland Raiders (4-3) in the division.

Kansas City got off to an abysmal start this season, losing its



Kansas City Chiefs' Ryan Succop, right, kicks a 30-yard field goal as Dustin Colquitt holds to defeat the San Diego Chargers 23-20 in overtime of an NFL football game, Monday, Oct. 31, 2011, in Kansas City, Mo.

first two games by a combined 89-10 and then dropping its third game on the road, at San Diego. Along the way, the Chiefs lost Pro Bowl running back Jamaal Charles, safety Eric Berry and tight end Tony Moeaki to season-ending injuries.

They started moving in the right direction against division doormats Minnesota and Indianapolis, and then romped to a 28-0 win over Oakland last week.

Now, they are tied for the lead in the AFC West.

The Chiefs had things going early, getting a 36-yard field goal from Succop in the first

quarter and then capitalizing on Rivers' second interception in the first few minutes.

With the ball at the Chargers 39, Cassel dropped back and saw Jonathan Baldwin streaking for the end zone, and the wide receiver out-jumped fellow rookie Marcus Gilchrist for his first career touchdown catch and a 10-0 lead.

Rivers, who threw for 369 yards, was also intercepted by Kendrick Lewis early in the game, one week after throwing two fourth-quarter picks in a disheartening loss to the New York Jets.

Kansas City finally got its offense in gear, marching 74 yards

Succop kicked his second field goal just before halftime for a 13-3 lead.

The Chargers defense kept them in the game in the third quarter, holding the Chiefs to two three-and-outs and picking off Cassel for the second time. Kansas City only managed 44 yards of total offense through the second and third quarters.

Nick Novak kicked three field goals in the third quarter, drawing the Chargers within 13-12, but their inability to get into the end zone nearly cost them.

Kansas City finally got its offense in gear, marching 74 yards

in 10 plays early in the fourth quarter. Jackie Battle finished off the drive by leaping over the scrum from a yard out, giving the Chiefs a 20-12 lead with 12:01 left.

It sure didn't last long.

Rivers completed four straight passes covering 74 yards—one for 27 yards to Vincent Jackson on third-and-13—before Curtis Brinkley leaped in from 2 yards out for the Char-

gers' first touchdown.

Going for the 2-point conversion and the tie, Rivers floated a pass to Brinkley in the flat and he was thrown back by cornerback Brandon Carr. The officials ruled that Brinkley nudged the ball over the goal line, though, and the decision was upheld by video review.

It was the fourth replay call that went against the Chiefs.

Rivers' butterfingers made that a moot point.

Broncos sticking with Tim Tebow for now

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. (AP)—Tim Tebow wasn't sacked Monday.

One day after giving his embattled young quarterback a less than ringing endorsement following a humiliating 45-10 loss at home to the Lions, Broncos coach John Fox said he's sticking with Tebow.

"For this week, yes," Fox said.

Tebow said he doesn't feel as though he's on a week-to-week basis but that he's not one to fret about the future anyway.

"It's just take it one day at a time, consistently trying to get better and not focusing too far in the future," Tebow told The Associated Press. "Today's the day I've got to improve and that's kind of the focus."

The Chargers defense kept them in the game in the third quarter, holding the Chiefs to two three-and-outs and picking off Cassel for the second time. Kansas City only managed 44 yards of total offense through the second and third quarters.

Nick Novak kicked three field goals in the third quarter, drawing the Chargers within 13-12, but their inability to get into the end zone nearly cost them.

Kansas City finally got its offense in gear, marching 74 yards

and improved on some things," Tebow suggested. "It wasn't all bad, it just didn't necessarily look that way. But that's the thing about it, it's never as bad as it seems, it's never as good as it seems."

The Broncos had eight possessions of three plays or fewer Sunday, turned it over once on downs and three times on takeaways, two of which were returned for touchdowns. Tebow was sacked seven times and his only TD toss came after the Lions had built a 42-point lead while razzing him with imitations of his prayerful pose that's become an online sensation.

"We knew he was a scrambling quarterback," Lions linebacker Stephen Tulloch said. "We knew he was going to try to get out of the pocket and try to keep plays alive and we did a good job just executing. He's a young player. He's got a lot to learn as a player. Take nothing from him, he's a winner, he finds a way to win. He just needs to clean up some things in his pass game, but that takes time."

The Broncos tried to adapt to Tebow's unconventional skill set, spreading out the offense and speeding up the tempo, even sprinkling in some option-read plays, but nothing seemed to work very well.

The Lions crowded the line of scrimmage and used Tulloch as a spy to keep the second-year scrambler from running. They blitzed him on more than 50 percent of his dropbacks, pushing the pocket and containing the edge with a disciplined pass rush.

Lions cornerback Chris Houston, who returned an interception 100 yards for a touchdown, revealed Detroit's game plan was to stack the box and make Tebow try to beat them with his arm.

"We just wanted to make him be a quarterback today," Houston said after the game. "... He's an athlete, he's no Tom Brady or Peyton Manning or nothing like that. Or Michael Vick or nothing like that. He's got a long ways to go as far as being a quarterback, but he's a hard worker."

Fisher denies union rift in letter to NBA players



NEW YORK (AP)—Derek Fisher denied a rift in union leadership in a letter to NBA players Monday, telling them there have been "no side agreements, no side negotiations or anything close" with league officials.

A story Saturday on Foxsports.com titled "Is Fisher in Stern's pocket?" said there was a disagreement between Fisher and players' association executive director Billy Hunter and that the Lakers guard had promised NBA Commissioner David Stern that he could deliver a deal with a 50-50 split in basketball-related income.

The story said Hunter confronted Fisher last Friday, the day talks with the league broke down and led to the cancellation of the entire November schedule.

"Usually I wouldn't even dignify absurd media reports with a comment. But before these re-

ports go any further, let me say on the record to each of you, my loyalty has and always will be with the players," Fisher wrote in the letter, obtained by The Associated Press and other media outlets. "Anyone that questions that or doubts that does not know me, my history, and what I stand for.

"And quite frankly, how dare anyone call that into question. The Players Association is united and any reports to the contrary are false. There have been no side agreements, no side negotiations or anything close. We are united in serving you and presenting the best options and getting everyone back to work."

Players and owners made progress on a number of issues related to the salary cap system over two days last week. But the negotiations fell apart again on the third day, when the sides decided to revisit the BRI split again.

Owners are insistent on a 50-

50 split, while players have proposed reducing their guarantee from 57 percent down to 52.5, which they say would transfer more than \$1.5 billion to owners over six years.

"My goal, the executive committee's only goal is to present you with the most fair deal possible," Fisher wrote. "A deal that is both fair on system and BRI. One isn't more important than the other. They are both extremely impactful to our business, our sport and our day to day life in the league."

Fisher put the blame squarely on owners in the letter, telling players that "if nothing more, the league and owners should understand people's livelihoods are at stake."

"They should be able to take the over 1 billion dollars we've offered them and open the doors of their arenas and let us, along with the ushers, parking attendants, everyone impacted to get

back to work," Fisher added.

There have been no bargaining sessions since Friday, though Fisher told the players he would be in touch later in the week with an update.

Players will lose about \$350 million with no games in November and more games could be lost without further concessions by the players, since the league has repeatedly said it won't go beyond the 50-50 split.

The Foxsports.com story identifies union leadership as a problem, saying: "This is fact: Fisher and Hunter haven't been on the same page throughout this lockout." It cites a veteran NBA player familiar with the negotiations who expressed concerns about Fisher's allegiance.

"The attempt by 'sources' to divide us will be unsuccessful," Fisher wrote. "We will continue to work every day to do right by you, the businesses that depend on our league and our fans."

"I think we definitely need to improve. I think we will,"

Tebow said. "Just the timing and getting in and out of the right plays and being more consistent. ... Every day I'm just coming in here and trying to get better and improving and whatever they ask I'm going to do."

Tebow, who pulled out a stunning win at Miami two weeks ago in his first start this season despite playing poorly for most of the game, said he feels as though the coaching staff still has his back.

"I think they have confidence in me, but more than anything, I've got to have confidence in myself and my teammates around me and at the end of the day that's what matters," Tebow said.

He insisted his confidence wasn't rattled by the Lions' landslide.

"We did some good things

Ride 'Round the Ridge Sunday at Saipan Radar Station



Bikers head out of the Saipan Radar Station during last year's 1st Annual Ride 'Round the Ridge. The second edition of the MTB race will be held this Sunday.



The 2nd Annual Ride 'Round the Ridge will take place this Sunday with XTERRA World participants Mieko Carey and Butch Sublemente expected to lead local bikers in the MTB race.

Carey, who competed in the 2011 Xterra World Championships in Hawaii late last month, topped the long course division of the inaugural Ride 'Round the Ridge last year, clocking in at one hour, 14 minutes and 39 seconds. Sublemente, who debuted in Xterra World

this year, came in at third overall and second in the men's division of last year's Ride 'Round the Ridge, submitting 1:15:27. Guam's Jazy Garcia finished second overall and first in the men's with a time of 1:15:21. Bob Ferrer posted 1:21:42 to complete the Top 3 in the men's long course. In

the women's division, Heather Kennedy (1:40:17) and Kanae Quinn (1:46:13) joined Carey in the Top 3.

Sunday's long course will still begin and end at the Saipan Radar Station. From the starting point, bikers will head downhill, take a left at the t-intersection,

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

and pedal up through the s-curves down dirt road that leads past the firing range, Sirena, Kalabera Cave, and emerges at the Bird Island lookout. From there, bikers will head to the pavement leading to Kimikaze trail, turn left, and take the single track section that would separate long and short course participants. Once on top of the hill, bikers will turn left and

race down the pavement to the dirt road that leads behind the Marianas Country Club. Once riders reach the one-million-gallon tank, they will turn left and climb up to the Radar Station. Long course participants will do two laps of the course, while short course riders are done after only one lap.

Short course's defending

champions are Gary Bandoja and Kimiko Hasegawa, who clocked in at 40:48 and 50:44, respectively, last year. Rounding out the Top 3 in the men's division of the inaugural race were Arnel Cruz (43:30) and Ricky Melchor (48:00). In the women's division, Jackie Van Dam (51:50) and Maricel Mahilum (53:36) came in at second and third.

This year, race organizer Brad Ruszala said prizes will be awarded to the Top 5 in the men, women, and youth divisions in both the short and long courses, but medals will only be given to the Top 3.

Entrance fee for the race is only \$10 and registration will begin at 6:30am. The race starts at 7:30am. (Roselyn B. Monroyo)

TAN HOLDINGS

From Page 28

ment on Saturday and Sunday.

Last year, 16 junior and adult players from Guam joined the Tan Holdings Classic, including boys U12 champion Derek Okuhama. Also on the visitors list last year were U10 singles semifinalist Mason Caldwell, U12 singles semifinalist Brian Tuncap, Ryan Freeman, Josh Cepeda, Christian Penafiel, Alex Ornbo, Camdyn and Ashley Nadler, and Pulani Lansing

Deadline for registration for Week 2 of the annual net-fest will be played on Nov. 23 and from Nov. 25 to 27. Events lined up in the second week are the junior long court U10, U12, U15, and U18 singles and doubles divisions and adults doubles (2.0, 3.0, 4.0, Open, and 40-and-above categories). Deadline for registration for Week 2 is set for Nov. 17, while draws will be available by Nov. 21. Awards ceremony will take place on Nov. 27.

This year's Tan Holdings Classic is supported by TakeCare, Quality Distributors, Mobil, and Tan Siu Lin Foundation.

fice, located on the first floor of the JP Center Building in Beach Road. For Guam players, registration forms can be obtained from Lany Camero of Fiesta Resort Guam.

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Deadline for registration for Week 1 of the competition is on Nov. 10. Draws will be posted on Nov. 15. Registration fee is only \$15 for singles and \$10 per person in the doubles division. Entry forms are available at the Tan Holdings Accounting Of-

tation to the awards banquet at East Harbor.

Pre-registration will be held on Nov. 11, from 11am to 12:30pm at the Bay Breeze Restaurant & Bar. The swim course inspection will be held the same day from 1 to 2pm at the East Harbor. Final registration will take place that evening from 4:30 to 8pm at the Rota Resort & Country Club's Sunset BBQ Tiki Tiki. The pre-race briefing for all participants will be held that evening from 6 to 7:30pm. The awards banquet will be held after the race at 6:30pm at East Harbor.

The annual Rota Blue Triathlon is one of four major triathlon events held in the CNMI. Completing the list are the Xterra Saipan Championship, Tagaman Triathlon, and the Tinian Turquoise Blue events.

The Rota Blue Triathlon is also sponsored by Rota Resort & Country Club, other government departments and agencies, and the people of Rota.

For more information about the annual Triathlon, please contact Frank Tudela at 1-670-664-3200/01 or ftudela@my-marianas.com, or contact Sandra Atalig at the MVA Rota Office at 1-670-532-0327. (PR)

RGA Nov. Ace, Dec. qualifier this weekend



The Refaluwasch Golf Association will be holding the November Ace and December qualifying tournaments this Sunday at the Kingfisher Golf Links.

Check-in time is at 11am, while tee off is at 12pm.

After the two events this weekend, the club will have three more competitions before calling off the season. The third event will take place on Nov. 20 with RGA

having the December Ace at Coral Ocean Point.

Then the 12 monthly Ace winners will slug it out for the RGA Club Championship on Dec. 11. The club will conclude the season with the Family Fun Day on Dec.

18. Venues for the last two events have yet to be decided.

For more information about RGA tournaments, contact Tars Olopai at 483-5508, Tony Rogolifoi at 288-3515, and Jess Wabol at 288-1129. (PR)

WHISPERING

From Page 28

last won the JV volleyball title in the 2008-2009 season incidentally against the Eagles.

GCA is also returning to the finals after failing to advance in the 2010-2011 season, following a loss in the early rounds of the playoffs.

The Eagles boosted their chances of moving into the finals this season after winning the opening set by seven points. However, GCA could not fin-

ish off the Geckos, who showed nerves of steel in the extended second set to pull off a close win and keep their finals bid alive.

The second set was a neck-and-neck battle with the game tied last at 25-all. Daniel Lim then moved SIS a point away from winning the second set when he connected on a kill. Lim served for the game point and won it for SIS when GCA failed to return the letter after three touches.

In the deciding third set, GCA took a 2-0 lead off Jonathan Libut's aces. However, the Geck-

os kept on fighting and was one point away from a return trip to the finals, 16-15, after Lim's service dropped on unguarded spot of GCA's right sideline.

Lim served for the match point and GCA returned the ball, which clearly dropped past the backline. However, the line-man called it in for another deadlock, 16-all. The break was a big relief for the Eagles, as before the extended third set, they were also called for a wide return at the backcourt with GCA ahead, 14-12. The ball was in and could have ended the game right there,

but officials saw otherwise.

With the game tied, 16-all, Billy Hinson made an ace for a 17-16 lead. He served anew and GCA finally won the semis game that lasted for about two hours when SIS' Dakota Hall failed to return the leather as he lost his balance while hitting the ball. Lim had the first touch off Hinson's serve, but hit return went off to the SIS right sideline and Adele Hudkins chased the leather. Hudkins managed to return the ball safely to SIS's court, but Hall was not square off for the final hit.

INTER

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After the early defensive lapses, Inter made the necessary adjustments and 13 minutes later Peter Loken hit a header off Peter Houk's corner kick to equalize.

The first half still ended in a deadlock, 1-all, but Inter Godfather's quickly took the lead at the beginning of the second half with Arkie Reusora making his first goal in the game in the 46th minute.

Inter Godfather's made it a 3-1 lead in the 59th minute, as Reusora found the back of the

net anew. Inter completed its domination of KFAS in the second half after adding two more goals in a span of six minutes. Masatoshi Otsuka drilled the fourth goal in the 68th minute, while Shunji Nagayasu also made it to the scoreboard in the 74th minute.

MP United A 5, Shirley's FC 0

In the Group A game, MP United A blanked Shirley's FC.

MP United A improved to a 2-0-0 win-draw-loss record and joined Wild Bill's and Paire Football Club in a three-way tie for first place in Group A.

Dae Min Jeon did most of the

damage for MP United A, as he recorded a hat-trick in the shutout win. Adam Walsh and Dae Min's older brother, Dae Won, scored the two other goals for MP United A.

Walsh canned his goal in the 27th minute to give MP United A a 1-0 halftime lead. Then Dae Min broke loose in the second half, scoring three straight goals (56th, 60th, and 80th minute). One minute before the game ended, Dae Won added one more goal to hand Shirley's its second loss in as many matches.

Paire FC 5, Tan Holdings FC 0

The other Group A match also

ended it a shutout win for Paire FC.

Shi Peng Lin scored early for Paire, drilling the first goal in the game in the fourth minute. Paire's three other goals came in the second, courtesy of David Loan, William Dunn, and Ropati Tonuu. Loan logged the first goal for Paire in the second half, making it to the scoreboard in the 56th minute. It took 13 more minutes for Paire to score again off Dunn's goal in the 69th minute and then five minutes before the match wrapped up, Tonuu recorded his first and only goal in the game.

Tan Holdings dropped its second straight assignment.

FORMER

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can't beat the course, racing through Rota's tropical waters and on quiet roadways through villages and jungles. Rota Blue is a world-class event."

The event is also sponsored by the Rota Mayor's Office. The triathlon features two distances: an A-type half-marathon distance, which includes a 1.5 kilometer swim, followed by a 40-km rigorous bike course, and a 10-km run (no time limit) and the B-type Olympic distance, which includes a 2.0-km swim, followed by a 90-km bike course, and topped off with a 21-km run (8-hour time limit). For team competitors, they can join the A-type distance, again with no time limit.

Starting time for both distances is at 6:30am at Rota's East Harbor. Wetsuits are permitted, while bike helmets are required. Registration fees are \$80 for A-type course solo competitors and \$70 for each member in the team event. The fee for the B-type course is \$100. The entry fee includes event t-shirt, high-quality swim cap, and an invi-



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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Whispering Palms vs GCA in finals

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Whispering Palms and Grace Christian Academy arranged their championship duel in the junior varsity division of the 2011-2012 Coalition of Private School Sports Association Volleyball League after posting separate semis wins yesterday at the Whispering Palms court in Navy Hill.



The first finals berth went to Whispering Palms after the Terns swept Marianas Baptist Academy, 25-18, 26-24, while GCA nailed the second and last championship seat after surviving Saipan International School in three sets, 25-18, 25-27, 18-16. The winner-take-all finals will be played tomorrow at the Mt. Camel School Gymnasium, starting at 4:30pm. MBA and SIS, which lost in last season's finals to Saipan Community School, will battle for the third place trophy at 3:30pm.

Whispering Palms, which is composed of Tommy Choi, Danny and John Auther, Aaron Lee, Jennifer Tan, Gabrielle Race, Negahr Rastguyi, Colin Ramsey, Troy Young, Suah Cho, Maile Aldrich, Steve Lee, Rachel Kim, Olivia Hirsh, and Caitlin Tinney, and coached by Emily Young and Heather Kennedy, is back in the finals after missing the championship round for two seasons. Whispering Palms

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Grace Christian Academy's Mulan Ta returns to Saipan International School during the second set of their semis game in the junior varsity volleyball league yesterday at the Whispering Palms court.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Inter Godfather's keeps clean slate

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

 Inter Godfather's cruised to its third win in as many games in the 2011 NMIFA Men's Fall League after whipping Korean Football Association on Saipan, 5-1, last Sunday at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

With the victory, Inter Godfather's stretched its lead in Group B to two games, while KFAS dropped its season debut.

Actually, KFAS got off to a good start in its first game when Calvin Yang pulled away from his defenders, caught Inter Godfather's goalie Evan Hunsberger napping, and scored the first goal in the match with only two minutes gone by in the opening frame.

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Inter Godfather's Dale Roberts, second left, battles a KFAS striker for the ball during their game in the NMIFA men's fall league last Sunday at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

Tan Holdings Classic set for two weekends

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

 Saipan and Guam players will trade volley and serve anew as the 3rd Annual Tan Holdings Tennis Classic holds competition for two weekends this month.

The first week of the annual tournament will run from Nov. 17 to 20 with Saipan and Guam players allowed to enter in the junior short court singles and doubles events (girls and boys divisions) and in the adults singles and mixed doubles. The adults singles is divided into five age categories: men's and women's 2.0, 3.0, 4.0, Open, and 40-and-above division. The mixed doubles play will have only four divisions, 2.0, 3.0, 4.0, and 40-and-above.

Games scheduled for Nov. 17 and 18 are for Saipan players only and will be played from 5pm to 9pm at the American Memorial Park Tennis Courts, Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, Hyatt Regency Saipan, and Pacific Islands Club. Guam players will start seeing action in the tourna-

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Colin Ramsey serves during last year's U12 singles event in the Tan Holdings Tennis Classic at the AMP tennis courts.

Former champions return for Rota Triathlon



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Swimmers race during last year's Rota Blue Triathlon that attracted 150 competitors.



Former champions Hidea Miyazuka and Taro Shirato will return to the CNMI this month for the 18th Annual Rota Blue Triathlon set for Nov. 12.

Principal sponsor Kiyokazu Fitness Club of Japan has confirmed the two will join this year's competition. Miyazuka is a five-time champion of the triathlon event, while Shirato

has taken the crown six times. Triathletes from Saipan, Tinian, Rota, Guam, and Japan have registered to take part in the annual Ironman event.

"Rota Blue continues to have a faithful following of athletes who return year after year, as well as a steady stream of new competitors," said community projects manager Martin Dueñas of event co-sponsor Marianas Visitors Authority. "You

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